Copy for Ms. Del Barrio

# GLADIATORS

**(Where Wisdom Is Mightier Than The Sword)**

Vol. 2 No. 1 February, 1990

## Outstanding Congressmen



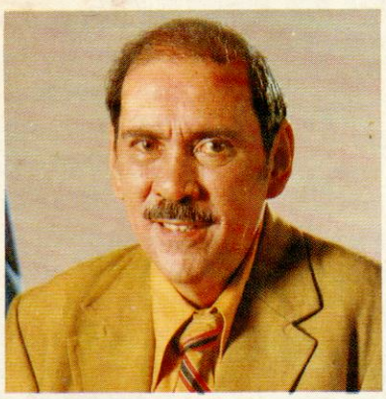
Rep. Vicente C. Rivera



Rep. Gregorio A. Andolana



Rep. Narciso D. Monfort



Rep. Julio H. Ozamiz



Rep. Dante O. Tinga



Rep. Isidro C. Zarraga



Rep. Rodolfo G. Valencia

**DISTINGUISHED COUNCILOR**



Councilor Jorge L. Banal

# Portrait of an Outstanding City Legislator



A new breed of public servant with a clear vision to serve the interest of his constituents, Quezon City Councilor Jorge Lerma Banal was born on Feb. 22 1939.

His father, Conrado C. Banal, Sr. a PMA graduate and a Colonel in Philippine Army (deceased) hailed from Pampanga; and mother, Josefa Lerma of Manila is an English and Piano teacher.

Married to the former Charminia Baluyut, the couple is blessed with 8 children: Jorge, Jr., Investment officer; Joseph, Purchasing Assistant; Ma. Jessica, Bank officer; Ma. Jethra, Physical therapist; Ma. Jesusa, Medicine, U. P.; James, Fine Arts, U. P. Jason, 4th Year H. S., Claret School; Ma. Jasmin, 4th Year H. S., Maryknoll.

With an impressive scholastic achievement, the young Banal graduated valedictorian in his elementary at the St. Joseph's Academy and salutatorian in high school at the F. E. U. He was a university scholar when he earned his BSC (major in Management and Accounting), F. E. U.

"Jorge" figured prominently in campus journalism as star sports editor and later managing editor of "Advocate". His student days were crowded with his involvement in literary and oratorical contests and leadership in class organizations.

Deeply involved in community affairs, Councilor Jorge Banal heads several civic, business, educational, religious and professional organizations either as President, Chairman or Director.

A Rotarian, a Kiwanian, a Knight of Columbus and a Jaycee senator, he has actively participated in the planning and implementation of governmental, socio-economic and cultural projects to upgrade the people's quality of life.

For his unselfish devotion to community uplift, "Jorge" has been recipient of outstanding awards from the government, Jaycees, Jayceerettes, Phil. Mental Health Association, Alumni, Parents-Teachers, Homeowners, National Writers and Poet Associations. He was the only male awardee for the coveted Tandang Sora Service award from the QC government.

To broaden his horizons as a civic leader and as a student, he participated in conferences and leadership seminars, and to name a few: Anniversary Celebration, Salt Lake City, Utah, USA in 1988; Asia Pacific Jaycees Congress in Hongkong (1979); world students conference in Japan (1964).

At the City Council, "Jorge" performed the delicate job of Majority Floor Leader and the chairmanship of the Committees on Laws, Rules and Internal Government from June 1988 to June 1989. Presently, he is the chairman of the Committees on Commerce and Industry and Price Control and Consumers Protection.

For the past 2 years, Councilor Banal authored and co-authored important ordinances and resolutions duly approved by the City Council.




Councilor Banal (4th from left) as guest speaker of the Manila Bay Breakfast Club Regular Meeting.

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# FROM THE PUBLISHER

# NOT THE SHIP BUT THE CREW

Professional agitators are making rounds into the nation in a desperate effort to change the present presidential government into a federal, parliamentary system. If the proponents would have it, the life of the Fundamental Law of the Land will be fleeting like car models.

The deposed President Marcos experimented and, in fact, we had an interlude with a Parliamentary System with Cesar Virata as Prime Minister. When President Aquino assumed office, Parliament was dismantled because it was a total failure. Parliament breed the worst graft and corruption unparalled in Philippine History.

Reviving it now is no guarantee that the quality of life of the Filipinos will ever improve. A proposal from some senators is to hold elections for the president and members of Congress on Nov., 1991, and, in effect, amend the new Constitution.

No doubt billions of pesos – the people's money – might go down the drain should such election plan materializes. As it is, the government is bankcrupt and is currently operating on a huge deficit in billions. The projected gargantuan election expenses can be made more purposeful in the building of roads, bridges, ports, communication and transportation facilities, houses for the homeless, irrigation, watersystems, school buildings, hospitals, power and energy expansion, increase food production, affordable medicines, etc.

What the country needs, and very badly, are not frequent elections but truly dedicated leaders who will work for the people's welfare and not for their own personal interest. We can well afford to wait to elect our officials as mandated by the New Constitution on May, 1992.

There is nothing wrong with the Ship (form of government). It is the crew who needs soul-searching, re-orientation on social and moral values. What we really need is not change OF MEN but change IN MEN.

*Fred L. Filomeno*

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## GLADIATORS

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# Defender of the Oppressed and the Disadvantaged



Only 40, the neophyte congressman representing the 2nd district of Cotabato, has established a brilliant record of achievement.

**The Honorable GREGORIO A. ANDOLANA is a human rights lawyer, parliamentarian, constitutionalist, an ardent defender of the oppressed, the homeless and the disadvantaged, and a fiery pleader for human justice.**

**Andolana is a crusading journalist and writer, a radio commentator, a CPA reviewer, a college law professor, a scholar and a gold medalist in debate and oratory in his college days.**

This special issue of Gladiators magazine has included him one of the outstanding congressmen during the 2nd Regular Session of Congress.

His 2 years of work in Congress has been anchored on a platform which calls for a free, sovereign, prosperous and peaceful country. He advocates genuine people's empowerment and equitable economic wealth.

On the first day of the newly-restored Congress, freshman GREGORIO ANDOLANA of North Cotabato borrowed a barong from a friend and took a tricycle to the Batasan where President Aquino was to deliver her traditional State of the Nation address.

Having earlier survived the Administration's juggernaut where all but 2 or more than 70 Partido ng Bayan candidates lost, he was wondering how he could inject "new politics"

BIRTH OF A BLOC AND DEATH OF A LAW. A group of progressive solons, not more than 20, with cause-oriented background, labored against all odds to introduce pro-people legislations and at the same time parrying anti-people ones.

The Carp bill, according to Andolana, was filed with the vision of breaking the historical monopoly and control over the land by a few and proceed with the creation of a favorable agricultural base for national industrialization toward a self-reliant and progressive economy.

It did not survive the legislative gaunlet. "What survived," Andolana countered, "was a piece of legislation mangled by a gang of landlords that it now appeared to be the exact opposite of the original."

In withdrawing his sponsorship of the bill, Andolana lamented "that Congress has abdicated on its task to emancipate the rural poor."

UNRAVELING THE TASADAY HOAX. Andolana moved to uncover in what he claimed as the greatest anthropological hoax of all times -- the so-called Tasaday discovery.

Whether or not the discovery of a band of cave-dwelling Stone Age people in a rain forest in 1971 by Manda Elizalde was a mere concoction or not, the controversy revealed the neglect and oppression of the government against Filipino tribal communities.

HUMAN RIGHTS AND CIVIL LIBERTIES. As Chairman of the House Sub-Committee on the Protection and Assistance to Victims of Human Rights Abuses and Their Families, Andolana called public hearings attended by human rights victims.

He rallied the House to condemn and conduct investigation on the following cases of human rights violations:

Lean Alejandro assassination (HR 341); Prudente ambush (HR 488); Kadena killings (HR 661); Air Force bombing of several barrios in Central Mindanao (HR 404); Church persecution and many other similar cases.

On the plight of political detainees, he filed HR 671 to look into their detention conditions. He visited detention centers in Metro Manila, signed a petition urging the release of imprisoned nursing mothers, worked for the granting of a pass to a prisoner who wanted to attend the burial of his father, and spoke at a rally for them at Mendiola.

Alarmed by the rising number of families displaced by militarization in the rural areas, Andolana filed HR 889 for Congress to conduct a full-scale nationwide inquiry into this phenomenon.

OPPOSING ANTI-DEMOCRATIC MEASURES. On the restoration of death penalty, he voted "no", citing "that inspite advanced efforts to establish the effectiveness of the deterrent values of death penalty, no conclusive evidence has been obtained to support its efficacy."

Further he called the approved bill banning strikes in government "a landmark legislation in democratic

suppression."

LABOR. For the working class he filed a new Labor Code of the Phils. (HB 8576). He sought a ten-peso across-the-board (later amended to P30), increase for workers in the public and private sectors (HB 8633).

YOUTH AND STUDENTS. His HB 13196, "Tuition Law of 1988" proposes to set a limit on tuition increases and provides for an in-school consultative mechanism to reduce campus tension arising out of perennial increases in school fees.

WOMEN. The Cotabato solon sought to expand the coverage and duration of maternity leave benefits (HB 17182) and the repeal of a provision in PD 1102 which makes women ineligible for maternity benefits after 4 childbirths (HB 8049).

TEACHERS. His HB 9816 seeks to reduce the probationary period of private school teachers from 3 years to 6 months; a bill deleting a section in the recently enacted Wage Law (RA 6727) which technically exempts private school teachers from enjoying the mandated wage increase.

URBAN POOR. Andolana filed a bill proposing a 5 year moratorium on the eviction of squatters or the demolition of their houses. The young legislator delivered an inspiring privilege speech on this subject in July, 1989. Andolana's identification with the urban poor's plight was borne out of a personal experience having witnessed the demolition of the "box-type" modest one-storey house he was renting in a squatters colony near the Batasan Complex.

GOVERNMENT WORKERS. HB 4594 grants an annual medical allowance of P3,000 to government employees including barangay captains; and, a hazard pay be given to civil servants who, on the basis of their work or areas of assignment, are exposed to environmental or social risks (HB 4598).

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY He led a congressional inquiry on the secret high-risk rice research and experiments at the International Rice Research Institute (HR 416). After 7 long months of public hearings, the verdict: IRRI should immediately cease its "rice blast" research and burn all the unquantified microbes it had illegally brought into the country.

FOREIGN AFFAIRS. He filed Resolution 1021 calling on the government to recognize the new state and grant the long standing request of the PLO to establish a mission in Manila. He batted for the severance of ties with Morocco and the recognition of the Polisario-led Western Sahara Republic.

He likewise represented the House during the Inter-Parliamentarian's Union Conference in Sofia, Bulgaria where he called for the condonation of Third World debts in a speech delivered before an audience of 1,200 parliamentarians from more than 120 countries.

GRAFT AND CORRUPTION. He authored a measure requiring all prospective civil servants to attend a seminar that will familiarize them with anti-graft laws; HB 25249 bans government men from the casinos; against the resurrection of Jai-Alai.

FOREIGN DEBT. He is the principal author of HB 15600 which seeks the cancellation of the automatic appropriations scheme for the country's debt service requirements. He supports the Lagman's proposal to limit yearly foreign debt payments to 15% of the country's annual merchandise receipts.

US BASES AND NUCLEAR WEAPONS. Andolana is a strong advocate of the immediate dismantling of foreign military bases in the country. He articulates: "It is time to tell the Americans to cut and cut cleanly from the bases."

MINDANAO AUTONOMY. A principal author of the Organic Act, he later lamented that much of the "devolution of power" provisions had been eased out in the Conference Committee version, leading him to assert that the present law is like "a mail-order bride."

CIVILIAN AUTHORITY. Andolana's HB 17669 seeks to prohibit the detail of military personnel in civilian offices; to amend the composition of the National Security Council to include the Senate President and the Speaker of the House as permanent members (HB 25574).

ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE. He advocates the designation of a resident Ombudsman in every province and a division of the Court of Appeals in every re-

(cont. on page 25)



Rep. Andolana (at podium) proposes a 5-year moratorium on the eviction of squatters.

# "To serve God through his people"



"To Serve God Through His People." Upon this cardinal tenet radiates the whole spectrum of the activities of Congressman NARCISO DOLAR MONFORT. This, in effect, is the essence of his philosophy in life.

It expresses his sentiments, dreams and aspirations for fulfillment. It moves him to pursue his missionary service to his people.

With such guiding credo, Rep. Monfort lives a clean but rather busy life— attending to his multifarious chores in Congress, shuttling from one government office to another following up urgent matters and visiting his constituency at every possible opportunity.

As a medical student, his burning desire was to go abroad and specialize in surgery. But his crusade for rural health student service during summer months gained him recognition, was named by President Ramon Magsaysay as Presidential Assistant on Health.

The young "Narcing", as he is fondly called by his constituents, was again recruited when President Carlos P. Garcia took over the presidency after the untimely death of the most beloved and popular Magsaysay, the "Guy."

During the incumbency of the poet-president from Bohol, Monfort was awarded a Presidential Plaque as "Founder and Over-all Coordinator" of the First Medical Student Rural Health Volunteers.

Consistently performing an excellent work in the field of health and medicine and recognizing that health is the wealth of the nation which acknowledges no political boundary, after assuming the presidency, President Ferdinand Marcos lost no time in appointing Dr. Monfort Home Financing Commissioner.

With his competence in organization, alleviating the condition of the poor and the disadvantaged and the ability to win friends and influence people, Monfort was the unanimous choice of the ruling party to be one of its bets for the regional elections in the Batasan Regional Elections in 1978.

The encounter was hotly contested by several hopefuls coming from prominent and influential families. Monfort came out top-notcher in the contest representing Region 6 (Western Visayas).

In the suceeding 1984 province-wide electoral process, Monfort was re-elected. During his term, he was appointed concurrently Deputy Minister of Health and served in this capacity until the historic February EDSA revolt staged by the military and backed by civilians.

He won by a landslide in the last congressional poll. The honor installed the once successful medical practitioner the political kingpin, the Pancho Villa in the political ring in his district.

Such achievements are considered quite a spectacular feat considering the fact that in past congressional elections, only 7 per cent of incumbents in Congress who run for re-election were ever returned to the august body.

As a member of the Batasan, he worked assiduously on projects for Iloilo in the hefty magnitude of P500 million. As a Parliamentarian, the Iloilo solon, through his initiative, implemented various socio-economic cultural projects. In fact, he was consistently selected as among the highest authors and sponsors of parliamentarian measures.

Presently, Rep. Monfort effectively performs as Chairman of the House Health Committee, the body which evaluates the country's health policies and programs.

As a veteran legislator his main priorities are to improve and implement the health service program of the nation, arrest all major diseases — tuberculosis, schistosomiasis, malaria, among others — to make affordable to the poor the cost of medicine and maximize service to his constituency.

Hailing from Dumangas, Iloilo, "Narcing" graduated from the college of medicine, University of Santo Tomas. He holds a post Graduate in Public Health degree from the University of the Philippines and a Diplomate in Occupational and Industrial Medicine.

To broaden his professional horizon as a lawmaker, he participated actively in international conferences as member of the defunct Philippine Parliament.

"Narcing" Monfort is happily married to Carmen Teresita Guevara. The couple is blessed with 2 children, Jose Luis and Carmen Rita.

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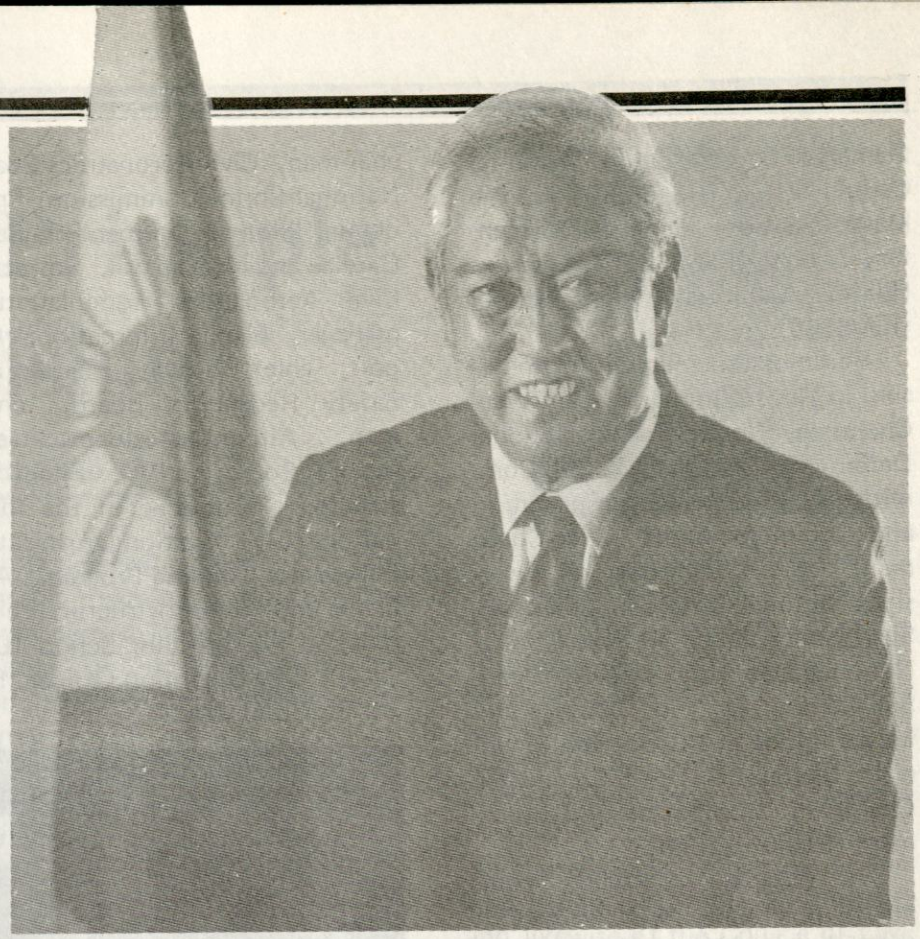
# Logging a Brilliant Milestone in Legislation



Although a newcomer in the political arena, this veteran and seasoned airline pilot has logged and zoomed to greater heights with an impressive milestone in just a brief span as congressman representing the second district of Bulacan.

His achievements, both in the halls of Congress and serving the needs of his constituent district, are well documented. His record will speak for itself and will give meaning to the dictum that the proof of the pudding is in the eating.

Since his assumption to office, Rep. Vicente Rivera lost no time in rolling his sleeves to the task that lay ahead of him.

For the Second Regular Session, Rep. Rivera filed, as principal sponsor, local bills of great significance: naming and giving honor to the Alejo S. Santos Bridge; purchase of school sites; construction of a new municipal hall; naming the Jose J. Mariano Memorial School; regulating the exportation of buntal fibers.

Principally, he sponsored national bills of far reaching import, such as: regulating the operations of Broadcast Media; reorganizing the National Telecommunication Commission; stabilizing the public transportation system; reorganizing the PAG-ASA.

His major national bills are designed to extend benefits to the greatest number of people: creating the Mactan-Cebu International Airport Authority; instituting the Aviation Code of the Phils.; establishing the Philippine National Police;

Rep. Rivera acted as co-sponsor to the following measures aimed at: construction of water systems; multipurpose buildings; increase in basic pay of the Armed Forces; creating the Cooperative Development Commission; prohibiting the sale of cigarettes to minors; construction of concrete barangay roads and multi-purpose pavements; granting tax exemption privileges to local water districts; allowing administrative reconstitution of original certificates of titles lost due to force majeure;

Declaring August 30 a special non-working holiday in Bulacan; amending the Comprehensive Agrarian Reform Law to exclude commercial livestock; increasing the capitalization of the Philippine National Railways;

Consolidating the anti-graft and corrupt practices laws; granting Raven Broadcasting Corp. to operate radio telephone and radiotelegraph coastal station, radio and television broadcasting stations; granting employees the right to additional leave of absence for family and medical reasons;

Development of campus journalism; regulations for the No-Dollar Importation of motor vehicles; instituting the Aviation Code; stabilizing the public transportation system.

As principal sponsor, the energetic Bulacan lawmaker pushed for the approval of House Resolutions on: the deregulation of the land transportation sector.

### Bills Enacted into Law

Enacted into law are his bills which: renamed the MIA into Ninoy Aquino International Airport; established new base pay rates of AFP personnel (RA-6638); Committee Report 37; Franking Bill (RA-6650); the naming of

Mamerto C. Bernardo Memorial Central School (RA-6663); and the Matias Salvador Memorial Elementary School (RA-6666); Zacarrias Hilario Memorial High School (RA-6669).

He holds the following membership in House Committee as: Vice-Chairman, Committee on National Defense; Chairman, Sub-Committee on Oversight Transportation and Communications; Vice-Chairman, Sub-Committee on Oversight/National Defense; Chairman, Sub-Committee on Reserve Affairs/National Defense; Vice-Chairman, Sub-Committee on Ways and Means (Monetary Credit and Financial Matters); Sub-Committee Chairman, Committee on Government Reorganization.

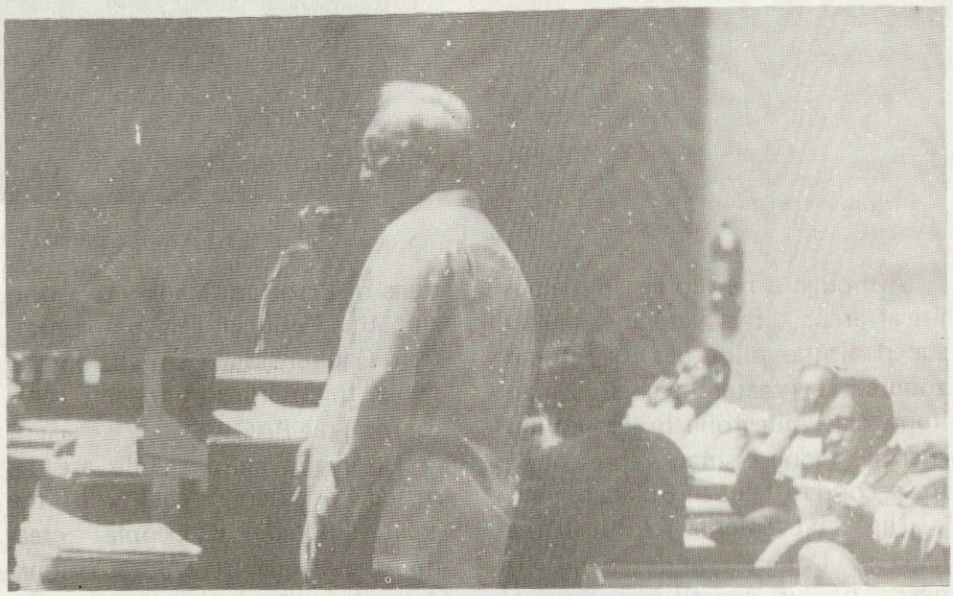
He attends punctually committee meetings, as a member of the following House Committees: on Ways and Means, Trade and Industry, Local Government, Economic Affairs. He was former Chairman, Committee on Transportation and Communications.

### Personal Sidelights

Born August 1, 1931 in Manila to parents Vicente Rivera, Sr. and Maria Luisa Casal, the gentleman lawmaker is happily married to the former Herminia E. Castaneda. The marriage is blessed with 6 children: Maria Luisa, Maria Emilia, Numeriano, Maria Rita, Jose and Maria Victoria.

He obtained his elementary and high school education at the Letran College; and a college education at UST. His burning obsession was to be a professional pilot. Thereupon, he enrolled and graduated from the Philippine Air Force Flying School. To further enhance his professional horizon, he took advanced courses at the US (Oklahoma) Federal Aviation Academy specializing on Air Traffic Control Management, aircraft performance, engineering and airline transport pilot.

**PAST AFFILIATIONS:** member, Board of Trustees, LWUA; Vice-chairman, Civil Aeronautics Board; National Shrine Commission; Presidential Pilot to former Presidents Garcia and Macapagal; director, Civil Aeronautics Administration; manager, Manila International Airport; chief, Airways Division and Safety Regulation Board; chairman, Aircraft Accident Investigation Board; PAL Flight instructor; a grantee of the International Civil Aviation Organization Fellowship Training Program, Academic and Flight Instructor, Philippine Air Force Flying School (Lipa City); Base Operation Officer, 534 Air Base Squadron.



Rep. Rivera delivers a sponsorship speech on regulating the operations of Broadcast Media.

**PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS:** International Aircraft Owners & Pilots Association (IAOPA), Washington, D.C., USA (1963-1989); elected IAOPA Regional Vice-President for Southeast Asia (1980-1984; 1984-1989); first Filipino to be elected Vice-President in the prestigious International Civil Aviation Organization held in Montreal, Canada.

He suffered political incarceration during the Martial Law regime from December 1972-April 1978. Despite the troubled years, Rivera, as a trained pilot, accumulated a total of 12,000 flying hours with various aircrafts on current aircraft ratings for Learjet 36A, King Air 200, Beachcraft Baron and all single-engine aircrafts.

From 1954 up to the present, Mr. Rivera is member and twice President of the Aircraft Owners & Pilot Association of the Philippines; chairman, of its International Affairs Division from 1980 to the present.

**CIVIC AND COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT:** member, Philippine Air Force Flying School Alumni Association; member and former board director of the Philippine Air Force Aviation Association; and Founder of the Mutual Benefits Service to its members; member, Cursillo in Christianity, Christian Family Movement, Knights of Columbus (4th degree), Plaridel Lions Club, Plaridel Rotary Valley Golf Club, Villamor Golf Club and Plaridel Socio-Civic club; club chairman, Bulacan Human Rights Association.

**POLITICAL AND RELATED MEMBERSHIP:** Rep. Rivera is provincial chairman and National Steering Committee member of the Liberal Party headed by Senator Jovito Salonga. He was chairman, Anti-Fraud Committee in Bulacan when Pres. Cory Aquino won by 67,000 votes over the late President Marcos;

ex-com member/treasurer of the

(cont. on page 28)

# A Man of Principle and Vision



Atty. Rudy Sabio

Watching him speak on television and on the floor, articulating his points on vital national issues, his composure firm, and unintimidated by his cons, one gets struck with the impression that Hon. Dante O. Tinga, Congressman of the lone District of Taguig, Pateros Metro Manila is another outstanding congressman who is difficult to contend with.

His colleagues in the House of Representatives would agree that he speaks persuasively with authority, that he is a man of principle and vision, one who is most dedicated to the improvement of the welfare and progress of the Filipino people. His numerous bills filed in Congress can attest to his performance and make him deserving of the honor accorded to him as an outstanding Congressman.

That is so, and in fact, he had already earned this honor when he has been chosen as --

- One of the 20 Outstanding Congressmen (1988), by the Philippine Lawmakers Magazine;
- One of the 20 Outstanding Congressmen (1988), by the Lawmakers Magazine;
- People's Choice Award as one of the Top Ten Congressmen for the Second Session of the Seventh Congress (1988-1989) under the Sponsorship of PTV-4 and People's Privilege Hour;
- One of the Twenty Outstanding Congressmen (1989), by People's Review Magazine.

It is not easy to rise to this prominence. However, Congressman Tinga, former Dean of the College of Law of the University of the East, has been an outstanding one even when he was still a student. His educational background reveals that he graduated as High School Salutatorian from the Taguig Institute Taguig, Rizal in 1954. He finished Preparatory Law Course (Associate in Arts) from the University of the East (with High honors) in 1956 and graduated Magna Cum Laude, College of Law, University of the East in 1960. He placed 12th among more than 4,000 bar candidates with a general average of 87.7%.

During his student days, he was a University Scholar of the University of the East, from 1954 to 1960, and was a recipient of Ozaeta Award from the same university for obtaining the highest general average among the members of Class 1960 of the U.E. College of Law, for the first three years of the class. He was the editor of the U.E. Law Journal from 1958 to 1960.

He went to the University of California at Berkeley for a Master of Laws Degree under a fellowship Grant at the Boalt Hall Law School in 1970 (with high honors) belonging to the top five percent, with fields of specialization on Corporation Law, Corporation Finance, Corporate Taxation. He attended graduate seminars on Labor Law.

Among his many treaties and articles written included "Majority Rule Versus Tyranny of the Minority in the Corporate Machinery", "Oppression of Minority Stockholders", "The Corporate Opportunity Doctrine", "Philippine Investment Laws and the U.S. Multinationals".

Before his entry to politics, Congressman Tinga was a faculty member of the College of Business Administration, University of the East handling business law subjects, and likewise of the College of Law of the University of the East handling Private Corporations, Mercantile Law, Obligation and Contracts and Property.

He was a member of the Bar Examination Committee of the Supreme Court and was a Bar Examiner in Mercantile Law in 1986.

His most notable activity as a lawyer (pro bono) was the devotion of his time, handling legal aid cases for indigents, students and the oppressed people.

A Senior Partner of the Tinga, Fuentes & Tagle Law Firm, Cong. Tinga is Vice-President, Director, Secretary and Legal Counsel, of Tucor Industries; Director, Secretary and Legal Counsel, Elyd Enterprises, Inc., Director, Secretary and Legal Counsel, Imperial Marble Corporation; Director and Legal Counsel, Fresh Green Fruits Export, Inc.; and, has also been legal counsel to numerous firms.

His past affiliations included: Senior Partner, Pimentel, Cuenco, Fuentes, Tinga Law Firm, (1984-1986); Senior Partner, Santiago, Tinga and Associates (1978-1984); Senior Attorney, Araneta Mendoza and PPA Law Offices.

His other awards are: Most Dis-

tinguished Alumnus in the Legal Profession, University of the East, 1988; Most Distinguished Alumnus for 1968, Taguig Institute. He is a member of the Knight of Columbus, St. Martin De Pores Council; Director, Rizal IBP Chapter, 1977-1979 Member and past Executive Vice President, Taguig Jaycees; past member, Taguig Kiwanis; and member of the Metro Manila Council of PDP-Laban.

Born on May 11, 1939 at Taguig, Rizal Cong. Tinga is married to a lawyer, the former Ma. Asuncion Rodriguez of Manila. They have six children.

In the House of Representatives, Cong. Tinga is Chairman of a powerful House Committee on Corporation and Franchises. He is Vice-Chairman, House Special Committee on Public Accountability. His Committee membership includes House Committees on Ways and Means; National Defense; Public Works and Highways; Foreign Affairs; Transportation and Communication; Planning and Development; and, on Labor and Employment.

He has authored 60 bills, authored and co-authored 12 more bills and is still busy preparing more. He has filed bills which are national in scope. His local bills pertain mostly to infrastructures. Among his significant bills that he earlier filed are:

### National Bills

H.B. 24383, authorizes the Solicitor General to seek redress for the claims of disaster victims or their heirs, and establishes the framework of extending free government legal assistance to victims or heirs;

H.B. 24382, requires insurance companies to print insurance policies in Pilipino or provide for a Pilipino translation of policies, imposing a sanction for violation thereof;

H.B. 24107, amends paragraph L (2) (A) of Section 29 of the National Internal Revenue Code of 1977, as amended, by limiting additional exemptions to two dependents, increasing the amount thereof,

H.B. 23616, provides for the establishment of the Philippine Overseas Fund, Appropriating Funds therefore, and for other purposes,

H.B. 21637, amends Section 3 of Presidential Decree No. 1270;

H.B. 19782, develops the Philippine Securities Market, creates a Capital Market Development Commission, defines its powers and duties, amends pertinent provision of Relevant Laws;

H.B. 19781, expedites the disposition of Pre-proclamation Petition by amending Sections 245 and 246 of the Omnibus Election Code (B.P. Blg. 881) and inserting a new section in the said code;

H.B. 19384, regulates the organization and operation of long-term development Finance Corporation;

H.B. 18361, further amends sub-paragraph (c) section 6 of Presidential Decree 902-A, as amended by Presidential Decrees Numbered 1653 and 1758, by providing that only actions for money claims are suspended upon appointment of a Management Committee, Rehabilitation Receiver Board or Body, for corporations, partnerships or associations under receivership,

H.B. 18360, amends Executive Order 1008, otherwise known as the Construction Industry Arbitration Law.

### Local Infrastructure Bills

H.B. 19312, provides for the expansion of the Health Center in Barangay Sta. Ana, Pateros, Metro Manila and authorizing the appropriation of funds therefor;

H.B. 17506, converts Barangay Street in Barangay Lower Bicutan in Tagig, Metro Manila into a national road and providing funds for the concreting/asphalting thereof;

H.B. 17505, provides for the establishment of a Health Center in Sitio North Daang Hari, Barangay Bagong Tanyag, Tagig, Metro Manila and authorizing the appropriation of funds therefor;

H.B. 17503, provides for the establishment of a Health Center in Barangay Western Bicutan, Taguig, Metro Manila and authorizing the appropriation of funds therefor;

H.B. 17504, provides for the establishment of a Health Center in Barangay Signal Village, Tagig, Metro Manila and authorizing the appropriation of funds therefor·

H.B. 15445, provides for the construction of the Aguho Elementary School Building in Pateros, Metro Manila and appropriating funds therefor;

H.B. 15444, converts the Teodoro Santos Street in Tagig, Metro Manila into a national road and providing funds for the concreting/asphalting thereof,

H.B. 15443, provides for the construction of a multi-purpose Center in Pateros, Metro Manila and appropriating funds therefor;

H.B. 15275, establishes a fifty-bed capacity General Hospital in the Food Terminal Inc. complex in Tagig, Metro Manila, to be known as the Tagig General Hospital and appropriating funds therefor;

H.B. 15274, converts the Sampaloc Street in Lower Bicutan Tagig, Metro Manila into a national road and appropriating funds therefor;

H.B. 15273, provides for the construction of Barangay Hall in Barangay Tipas, in Tagig, Metro Manila and appropriating funds therefor;

H.B. 12769, converts the Maestrang Pinay road in Tagig and Pasig, Metro Manila into a national Road, providing for the cementing of the unpaved portion thereof and appropriating funds therefore;

H.B. 12589, provides for the construction of a concrete bridge linking Barangay Ligid-Tipas and Barangay Ibayo-Tipas.

(cont. on page 29)

# The Gentleman Politician from Mindoro



Congressman Rodolfo G. Valencia, particularly well-known in Metro Manila for his outstanding contributions to real estate development and a 1983 TOYM awardee in the field of human settlements, represents the first district of Oriental Mindoro.

Better known as RGV, he is vice-chairman of the House Committee on Ways and Means; chairman of the subcommittee on finance in the Committee on Housing; a member of the Committees on Appropriations, Natural Resources, Tourism and Urban Development.

Cited as one of the top ten outstanding congressmen, RGV has filed 159 significant bills of local applications and 16 bills of national importance either as principal author or co-author.

RGV's House Bill No. 20780, known as the "EDSA LRT Line", has seemingly proved to be the answer to the transportation problem that runs the length of Epifanio de los Santos Avenue (EDSA) from Baclaran in Paranaque to Monumento in Kalookan City.

His most popular house bill so far is H. B. No. 2780 which seeks the creation of a P2.5 Billion Fund build-up over a period of five years on a P500 Million yearly. This has been unanimously approved both in the House of Representatives and the Senate, and soon to be enacted into law, giving benefits to the low-income family earners both in the government and the private sectors particularly the teachers and the military and police personnel.

## NOBLE CRUSADES FOR THE FUTURE OF MINDORO

Through his determination, RGV earned credits to successful endeavors sought for the benefit of the Province of Mindoro and its people. Foremost of which was the cancellation of Timber License Agreement (TLA) No. 376 involving 38,650 hectares of public forest of the island Provinces of Mindoro which posed a great threat to the ecological balance, destruction of economic resources and urban-rural infrastructure, among others. Further, the timber concessions affected the Mangyan ancestral lands and wildlife, specifically the threatened tamaraws and the desolation of P0.2525 Billion watershed infrastructure projects. This was done immediately five months after his assumption of office in Congress.

Likewise, he undertook and instituted remedial measures to rehabilitate the power plant of the Oriental Mindoro Electric Cooperatives I & II. By September, 1987, RGV made representations and series of consultations with the National Power Corporation (Napocor) and eventually this led to the reduction of power rates, from P3.60 to P2.50 per kilowatt-hour.

## THE KABUHAYAN PROGRAM

RGV conceived the Kabuhayan Program to assist and facilitate technology transfer of highly profitable business ventures to the Mindorenos as well as provide entrepreneurs with knowledge to manage and operate workable projects of their interest, equipping them with the up-to-date information on sources of financing, management and marketing of their products, and thus establish a self-sufficient, productive, well-balanced and responsible citizenry.

Its rationale is to provide livelihood and employment while underscoring the concepts of self-help and "bayanihan" or cooperation, making do with available resources which include the human resource, existing infrastructure, government and non-government organizations, and private entrepreneurs particularly locale to Mindoro.

The Program evolved to be the "Mindoro Kabuhayan Foundation, Inc.", a non-stock, non-profit, non-governmental organization with RGV as Founding Chairman. It aims to promote unity and solidarity among the Mindorenos and to involve their active participation in the achievement and implementation of socio-economic programs as well as livelihood projects designed to effectively utilize, develop and improve the human and natural resources of the Province.

Barely two years old, the Foundation is credited for some successful projects among which

are as follows:

1. Garments Manufacturing which subcontracts garments for export in the international market, with the Novelty Philippines, Inc. and the Department of Trade and Industry. Its operations are present in the eight towns of the first district of Mindoro, benefitting no less than 1,200 to 1,500 households with monthly earnings ranging from P250.00 to P800.00. The test case put up at Barangay Barcenaga in Naujan sometime in the first quarter of 1988 proved to be highly profitable. Thus, from subcontracting, it will soon progress into an industry with the construction of the first garment manufacturing plant in Mindoro.

2. USAID- Funded Agricultural Development & Productivity Program bridged thru the Foundation for Educational Evolution & Development (FEED). The P1.002 Million fund ably assisted some 1,169 farmers and farm workers at Barangay Pinagsabangan in Naujan promote agricultural development and increase crop production. This program also provided post-harvest equipment such as threshers and dryers as well as income-generating project as the "tambo" (softbroom) making.

3. Reforestration Program, in coordination with the Department of Environment & Natural Resources. This aims to reforest 4,000 hectares of open and denuded forest cover of Mindoro, with an initial 200 hectares as pilot project and a budget of P1.7 Million.

4. Artificial Coral Reef Project jointly with the Department of Agriculture which seeks to rehabilitate destroyed coral reefs along the shorelines of 42 coastal barangays in the town of Puerto Galera down to Pola. The pilot projects in the Cove of Buloc-Buloc (Naujan), the coastal barangays of Pambisan (Baco), Buhay-na-Tubig (Pola) and Silonay (Calapan) will serve as sanctuaries for feeding, spawning grounds and shelter of many commercially important species of fish found only in Mindoro.

5. Construction of 20 school buildings and classrooms in the island provinces of Mindoro to help meet the growing demand for education among the Mindoro youth, with a P2.80 Million budget from the Presidential Management Staff (PMS), Office of the President.

6. Medico-Surgical Mission, a 25-man mission of leading medical practitioners from Manila performed free medical surgical services to surgical patients. A project jointly undertaken with the support of the Rotary Club of Manila and the Department of Health, this benefitted a total of 1,125 indigent patients. With a project cost of P2.0 Million, the mission performed 420 surgical operations, 240 were major operations of which 100 were cataracts. About 705 medical cases diagnosed.

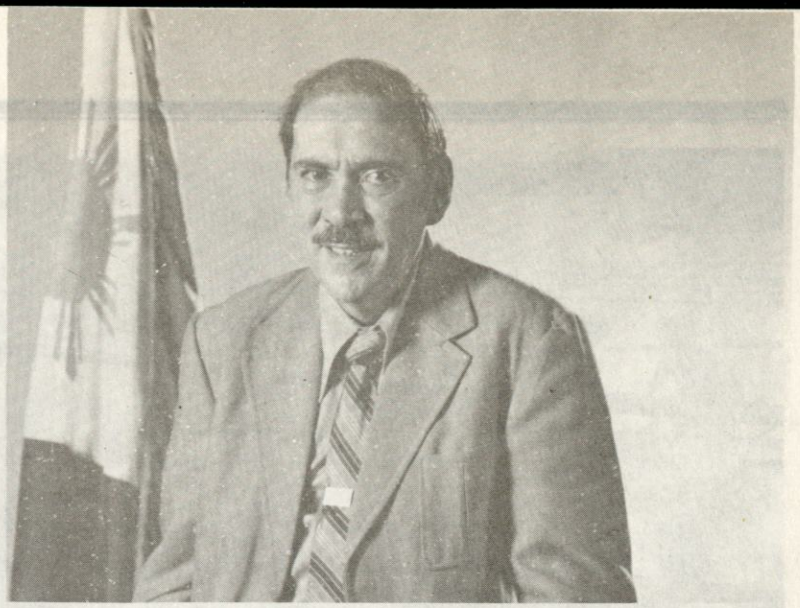
7. CURE-TB, a community-based TB-control program financed by Dow Chemicals Pacific Limited,



Rep. Valencia (3rd from right) presides over a public hearing conducted by the House Committee on Housing leading later to Pres. Aquino signing into a law a low-cost housing program.

(cont. on page 30)

# his main thrust: poverty alleviation



In a move to alleviate poverty and provide income-generating livelihood to fishermen and fish vendors, Congressman Julio H. Ozamiz (1st district, Misamis Occ.) extended with an initial seed capital in the amount of P100,000 from his own resources.

Recipients of his funding are the fishermen in the fishing villages of Jimenez, Panaon and Lopez Jaena municipalities.

The project, "Marine Cage Culture", was launched last October, 1989 which has been proven successful. The culture relates to the growing of "Lapu-lapu", "Danggit", ("Samaral" in Tagalog) and prawn fingerlings. They command good prices in the market because they are tasty and palatable.

The gentleman solon explained that mariculture is set on a shallow portion along the coastal waters by bamboo poles, anchored by stone weight usually in a sheltered area, cove, or base which is almost closed. Fingerlings (planting materials) from the sea are quartered inside these cages until they reach commercial sizes. The "Danggit" variety of fish is ready for harvest from 90 to 120 days after stocking it in rearing ponds.



Schools of harvestable Lapu-lapu and Danggit glisten as they teem fish cages, a livelihood project of Rep. Ozamiz.

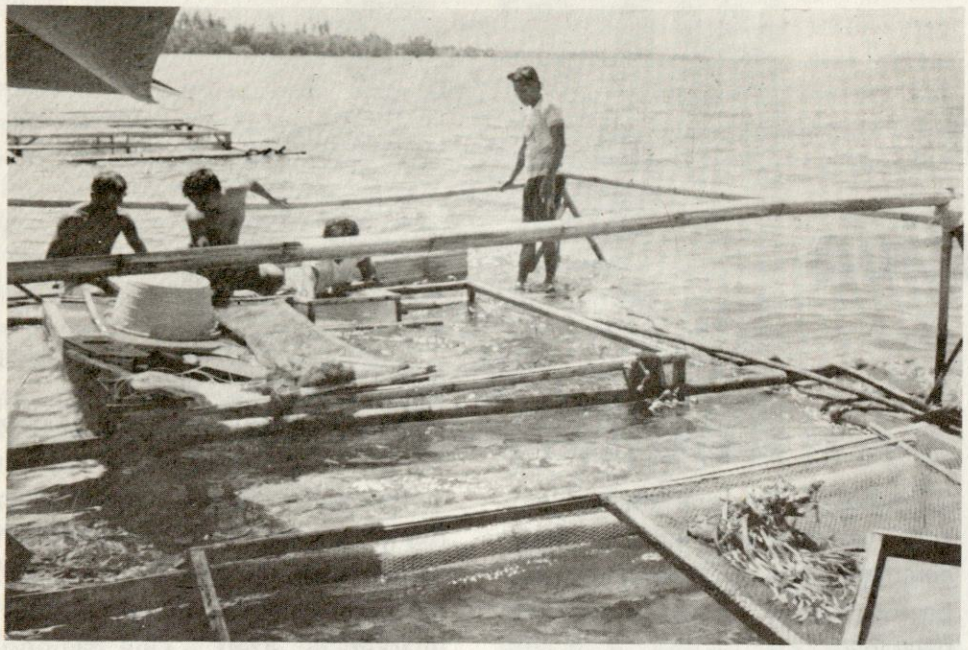
Based on actual experience, Rep. Ozamiz claims that the fish culture operation yields an average of 2,800 kilos of matured fishes (marketable sizes). One bamboo raft contains some 8 cages at a cost of P5,000.

Fishing equipment consists of styrofoams, bamboos, nettings and twines of different sizes, scoop nets, plastic containers, weighing scales, digging blades, carpentry tools, banca with motor. Costs of fingerlings and supplementary feeds will also have to be considered.

Meanwhile, Lutgarda L. Penoleo, supervising fishery biologist of the Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources, informed this writer that sexual maturity of "Lapu-lapu" is obtained in 4-6 years. A five-year old female can spawn 1.5 million eggs. Peak months for gathering fingerlings are from February to May. Stocking rate is 10,000 fingerlings per hectare/cropping season.

Rep. Ozamiz informs this magazine that the local governments (barangays, city and municipal councils) have demonstrated cooperation in the venture while the local Bureau of Fisheries has given technical advice on cage culture.

Former Agriculture Sec. Dominguez, in his visit to this pro-



Some 200 fishermen and fish vendor families are directly benefited from the Fish Cage Culture in Jimenez, Panaon and Lopez Jaena.

vince, witnessed the successful operation of cage cultures, was so impressed in them that he pledged the Department's assistance of P300,000 to expand the thriving industry.

The fish farmers here have expressed the hope that the honorable Senen C. Bacani, the new Agriculture Secretary, would also be symphatetic to their cause and fulfill his predecessor's promise of aid.

Ozamiz reveals that with the cage culture's survival rate of about 98 per cent from stocking to harvest and with an average harvest of 2,800 kilos at P120 per kilo (of "Lapu-lapu"), the farmers can easily gross P335,000 per cropping season.

Initially, the prized bounties from the sea are marketed domestically. In the second phase, however, foreign markets are being intensely eyed: notably Hongkong and Japan - where prawns and "Lapu-lapu" are in great demand.

**Rep. Julio H. Ozamiz** further says that profits realized from the marine industry are plowed back into the sea. A high level of production assures its multiflier effect by further spreading financial assistance to the poor but deserving sea farmers and fish vendors who are patiently awaiting for their turn to be assisted.

After the requirements of the fishermen shall have been achieved, "Juls", as he is fondly called familiarly by his constituents, will shift his undivided attention to the needs of the marginalized in the upland sector.

Rep. Ozamiz says the only satisfaction he can derive in providing livelihood projects to the needy is that, in the end, he has done his best to help eradicate poverty in this part of Mindanao.

At the conclusion of the Second Regular Session on June 9, 1989, the first district of Misamis Occidental hummed with developmental activities. Thanks to Rep. Julio H. Ozamiz, the District stood to be the beneficiary of infrastructures with a combined worth of P15,646,000.00 which are now in various stages of implementation while others are pending execution.

Neither inclined to oratorical peroration nor given to flowery but empty speeches, Rep. Ozamiz silently but methodically sought funding in various sources to beef up his programmed pet projects.

The Honorable Solon was able to tap the maximum the following sources for funding: Congressional Allocation Fund, Mindanao Development Fund, Local Government Fund and the President Aquino's Social Fund.



JHO with Barangay officials on an overview of the on-going mariculture livelihood project. They have just arrived from the seashore overseeing the fish cage culture.

## ON MAJOR PROJECTS UNDERTAKEN

The huge allocations are intended for the following projects in the different towns and barangays for the District:

Construction of public markets, asphalting and concreting of roads, drainage and irrigation system, school and multi-purpose building, health centers and hospitals, barangay and municipal halls, waterworks system, concreting of curbs and gutters, public library buildings; physical education edifice, bridges, seawalls, fish-ports and causeways, ABC Halls, and many others.

Three projects were being implemented under the Local Government Fund, namely: road asphalting and construction and development of spring with a total worth of P150,000 and P600,000, respectively.

Projects to be funded by President Aquino's Social Fund: Construction of Tuburan E/S, Libertad F/S, Balanlinao F/S, Sapang Dalaga H/S, Sapang Dalaga C/S and Macabayao E/S.

## MAJOR BILLS ENACTED INTO LAW

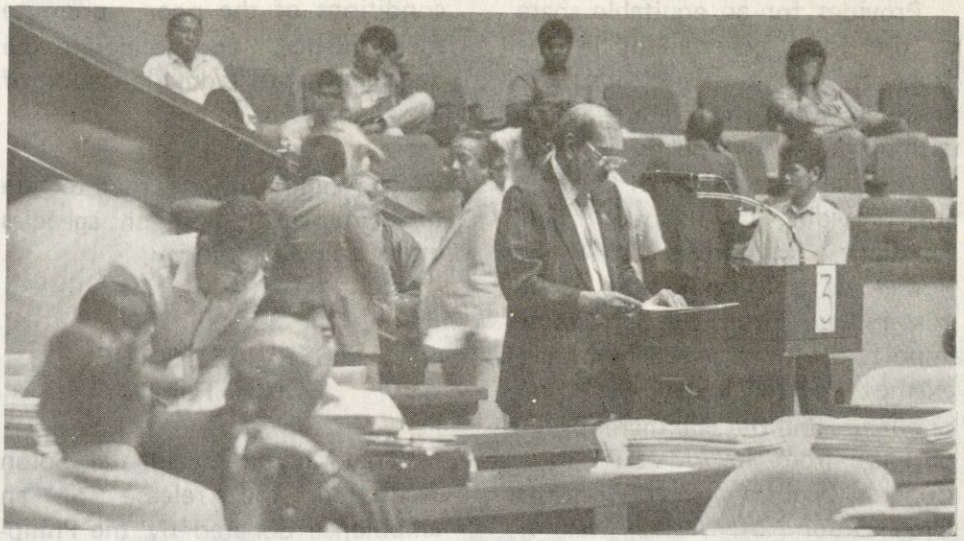
H. B. 1881, now R. A. 6726 – an act allowing qualified voters Oroquieta City to vote in provincial elections of the province of Misamis Occ., amending for the purpose R. A. 5518; H. B. 18568 (R. A. 6686) - authorizes annual Christmas bonus to the national and local government officials starting calendar year 1988;

and H. B. 22982 (R. A. 6724)- organizing a joint legislative-executive foreign debt council, defining its objectives, powers and functions.

## BILLS AUTHORED

H. B. 23161, establishes a national high school in Calamba, Misamis Occ., the Calamba National High School. Calamba is one town in the country which does not have a public secondary school. The nearest school is about 50 kms. away. The absence of a public school in towns adjacent to Calamba and the increase in the tuition fees in private high schools have resulted in the sudden increase of high school dropouts in the area.

H. B. 23162 - establishes a school of arts and trade in Calamba, Misamis Occ. as the Calamba School of Arts and Trades. Absence of a vocational school serves to worsen the widening gap between the rich and the poor. Such a discrepancy in the social structure will remain unless remedial measure like the establishment of a vocational school is undertaken.



Rep. Ozamiz delivers a scathing Privilege Speech in the House denouncing graft and corruption.



The Misamis Occidental congressman with Senator John Osmena discussing his (Rep. Ozamiz') pet projects for his district.

## CO-AUTHORED THE FOLLOWING BILLS

That which increases the national assistance to municipalities from 45% to 60% amending for the purpose P. D. 1741; creates the Mactan-Cebu International Airport Authority, transferring existing assets of the Mactan International Airport to the Authority, and vesting the Authority with the power to administer and operate the Mactan International Airport;

Provides for an equitable share of the local government in the proceeds of the utilization and development of the national wealth within their respective areas; creates the Department of Fisheries and providing for its powers and functions; authorizes the Armed Forces of the Philippines Commissary and Exchange Services to import sanitized used clothing, exempt from all taxes, duties and or charges and the sale thereof in its outlets, from the AMVETS States Congressional Chartered Veterans Organization of World War II, Korea and Vietnam;

Organization of World War II, Korea and Vietnam.



JHO (2nd, right) in a huddle with Speaker Ramon Mitra and House leaders on important economic measures.

Institutes a five-year balikbayan program; creates a joint Legislative-Executive Foreign Debt Commission defining its objectives, powers and functions to pursue policy options and strategies, herein contained to solve the Philippine foreign debt problems;

## SPONSORSHIP SPEECH

On June 6, 1989, Rep. Ozamiz delivered a sponsorship speech in the House of Representatives on H. B. 23992 which accentuated on the significance of the measure which seeks to improve living conditions of the poor, promote social justice, and accelerate the development of industrialization of the countryside.

The bill envisions to integrate the programs of other agencies under a single authority.

## SERVICE TO THE CONSTITUENCY

The Misamis Occidental Solon facilitated the release of an ambulance donated by the Philippine Charity Sweepstake to the Jimenez Medicare Hospital. It has been observed that for many years the town of Jimenez and adjacent municipalities never had a chance to own an ambulance.

It was a common experience that during emergency cases the populace encountered difficulties in transporting patients to hospitals.

Additional rooms were constructed to the Becor Primary School (Tabog, Jimenez) due to increased enrollment.

Other projects related to economic uplift:

improvement of the Jimenez Tennis Court;

construction of a home economics building at the Palilan Elementary School, Jimenez;

construction of diversion works, canalization structures of Bitibut Communal Irrigation Project (Sapang Dalaga);

hospital equipment and facilities worth over P5 Millions for the provincial hospital at Oroquieta City; Modern X-ray equipment, medicine and other medical equipment from a U. S. Mission.

## PHILIPPINE AID PLAN FUNDING SOUGHT

Principally targeted are projects necessary for the economic development not only of Misamis Occidental but also of neighboring provinces in Mindanao: construction and rehabilitation of the Oroquieta City Wharf and its ports facilities with an approximate cost of P25 M; construction of airport at Tabok, Oroquieta City to cost P300 M.

## MEDICAL EQUIPMENT DONATIONS

Oroquieta City. - Congressman Julio H. Ozamiz, (1st District, Misamis Occidental) led the inaugural turn-over rites of several donations consisting of modern hospital equipment for the Misamis Occidental Provincial Hospital procured through his efforts.

These consisted of two batches of medical equipment, one from West Virginia Medical Association in the United States led by Dr. Jesse Ho and Dr. Richard Bofill consisting of a modern X-ray unit with brain scanner, and ultrasound, portable X-ray machines, a dialysis machine, electrocardiagrams and heart fibrilators, automatic and portable anesthesia machines, lung respirators and suction machines and others.

The second batch of donation came from the Japanese government through J.I.C.A., consisting of complete modern radiology room equipment, ICU equipment, CSR Ward, Operating Roon, Nursery, Obstetrics and Gynecology, Laboratory, Blood Bank with Refrigerators, Pajero Ambulance and 55 KVA Power Generator.

Congressman Ozamiz, in an interview, expressed his profound gratitude to the humanitarian acts of both donors, whose facilities, worth millions of pesos, will go a long way in serving the health needs of his constituents especially the needy who cannot afford to come to Metro Manila to be treated with modern medical facilities.



JHO (right) attending the Turn-Over ceremony of several units of medical equipment donated by foreign countries, procured through his efforts, for the Misamis Occidental Provincial Hospital.

## REPORT FROM THE 44TH SESSION OF THE UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY SECOND COMMITTEE (ECONOMIC AND FINANCIAL) STATEMENT

BY
HON. JULIO H. OZAMIZ
MEMBER, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
VICE-CHAIRMAN
HOUSE ON WAYS AND MEANS

ON
AGENDA ITEM 82: DEVELOPMENT AND INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC COOPERATION
16 NOVEMBER 1989

*Mr. Chairman,*

*The 1980s have been dubbed as the most restrictive decade in trade policy in the postwar era. There has been a proliferation of non-tariff barriers (NTBs) in the industrial countries, seriously affecting the market access of products from the developing countries.*

*These NTBs are in addition to those barriers to trade which were carried over into the 1970s, such as the export restraint arrangements on products like textiles and clothing and the so-called "managed trade" on exports like steel.*

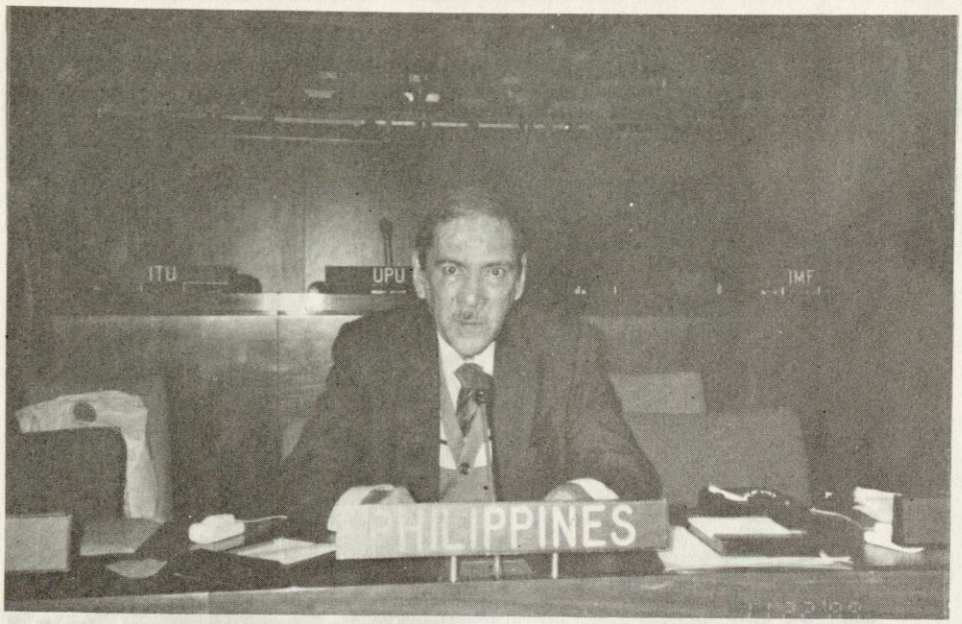
*Accordingly, almost a quarter of the non-oil imports of the industrial countries are currently subject to their various types of restrictive measures.*

*In the statement of UNCTAD Secretary General Kenneth Dadzie last Tuesday, he reaffirms that the main obstacle to the exports growth of the developing countries relates to market access and that the non-tariff barriers have affected almost 30 mer cent of developing countries exports.*

*Consequently, the growth performance in developing countries has stagnated; in fact in some of them, it has deteriorated further.*

*It is immoral that these miseries in developing countries, stemming largely not from their own making, have persisted in the midst of a prolonged expansion of growth in industrialized countries.*

*Certain developing countries were doubly disadvantaged as they have been mired in excessive external indebtedness. A dictatorial regime in my country ravaged its economy and laid it open to self-serving exploiters. But with the*




Rep. Ozamiz at the United Nations, New York representing the Philippine panel and presenting a position paper affecting our country's economy.

*assumption of government by President Corazon Aquino, on the waves of hope released by people power in a bloodless revolution, stirring the imagination of the entire world, we have risen from the ruins of past economic devastation. We continue to grow and to trade with confidence in the world's free markets.*

*Mr. Chairman,*

*As we therefore take stock of the social and economic situation in many parts of the world today, we see a multitude of people in the developing countries, dying due to malnutrition and various types of communicable diseases — a vivid testimony of massive poverty prevailing in those countries. The World Bank reports, for instance, that over 70 per cent of the population in Asia live below the poverty line. The report of the Secretary General (A/44/467) confirms this finding. He concludes in his report, as referred to in the statement of Mr. Rafeeuddin Ahmed, Under-Secretary General for International Economic and Social Affairs of the United Nations, that the economic crisis of the 1980s has had a generally adverse impact on poverty in a large number of developing countries.*

*My delegation is not oblivious of the work undertaken by the UN bodies, organs and agencies, and the efforts of individual countries to ameliorate the social and economic miseries in the developing world. Nonetheless, the facts unequivocally demonstrate that much has yet to be done.*

*We agree that the lack of political will among countries is the principal element accounting for the failure to hasten the process of negotiation and discussion in various fora to pursue agreed platforms for action. But the international community should not be derailed in useless recrimination. It should instead move on to determine an appropriate plan of action and pursue its implementation with vigor and dedication.*

*Mr. Chairman,*

*My delegation is greatly much encouraged by the recent successes of UNCTAD on matters which have eluded consensus action by the Trade and Development Board (TDB) for a long time. I am referring to the three consensus resolutions adopted by the TDB at its September meeting this year on the subject of debt, the interdependence of trade, development and monetary issues, and protectionism and structural adjustment.*

*According to the proverbial saying we can reap only what we have sown. Yes, indeed, among others, our efforts at UNCTAD VII to forge its Final Act, the stimulating discussions that followed at the TDB on the subject of debt, protectionism and structural development, have borne fruit for the International community to savor and to give it hope for greater achievements in the future for the benefit of all.*

*Mr. Chairman,*

*Three days ago, the General Assembly adopted a resolution by consensus endorsing the Declaration on the occasion of the twenty-fifth anniversary of UNCTAD. The Declaration, as we are all well aware, is not simply a fine piece of document that consummates the rituals for the occasion. It is a substantive document. It talks of economic stagnation and retrogression.*

*It talks of concerted national and multilateral action to attack the obstacles to a healthy, secure and equitable world economy. Most significant as highlighted in the UN resolution that was adopted the Declaration challenges us all to bring fresh thinking to bear on long-standing problems and to rise to these challenges by enhancing the political support we ought to accord to UNCTAD.*

*It will be a great misfortune to all if we fail to sustain the momentum by finding an appropriate solution to the nagging problem of underdevelopment in the developing countries.*

*Mr. Chairman,*

*We should now be inspired to tackle the impediments that have stood in the way for the expeditious negotiations under the auspices of GATT that will ensure a truly improved position of the developing countries in international trading. The negotiation should take full account of the areas of primary concern to developing countries, namely; tropical products,*

*agriculture, tariffs and non-tariff barriers, the restoration of trade regime on textiles and clothing under the GATT rules, trade-distorting policies and measures. It should implement scrupulously the principle of special and differential treatment to be accorded to*

*developing countries because of their trade, financial and development needs.*

*We are also fully convinced that since UNCTAD has a mandate covering all trade flows as well as a wide range of other interdisciplinary development issues, it can positively contribute to the success of the Uruguay round of negotiations, especially at this stage when this round is nearing the home-stretch. We hope to see that this round of trade negotiations will not only complete its work on time next year but it will achieve a liberation of trade that could enhance the development efforts of developing countries.*

*Mr. Chairman,*

*My delegation applauds the Swedish Government's announcement last year of its intention to lift all quantitative restrictions on imports of textiles and clothing by the end of July 1991. Certainly, this action is an effective and important contribution towards imrpoving market access by the developing countries and bringing into the usual rules of the GATT the trade on textiles and clothing, we can only hope that all other developed countries will consider a similar line of action so that once, and for all, the international community can put an end to this long standing temporary derogation of the discipline of GATT.*

*Mr. Chairman,*

*My delegation is convinced that the international community could now proceed expeditiously on the preparation for the new International Development Strategy for the fourth United Nations Development Decade. The preparatory Committee at its next meeting in January 1990 should immediately immerse itself on the substantive work to ensure that the forty-fifth session of the General Assembly next year could adopt this strategy. There is already a consensus on the principal elements that the new IDS should address. Among them are the questions of poverty and human resources development.*

*The report of the Secretary General on poverty which is before this committee, and whatever subsequent action that the present General Assembly may adopt should provide the starting point for the fleshing out of substantive consideration for the question of poverty in the new IDS.*

*On the question of human resources development, my delegation is gratified that the new IDS should likewise focus on this subject. The human being is at the core of every communal effort. Every human person is an integral part of his community and possesses potentials for the common good, which should be developed as fully as possible, not only for the individual's personal satisfaction and fulfillment, but also for the well-being of his community. It is within the context of total and integrated development of human beings that economic development goals are pursued. It is also within this concern that human resources development should become a purposeful objective so that human beings, individually and collectively, may be capable of improving their quality of life.*

*The international community should therefore encourage countries in their efforts to formulate and establish long-term programs of development and growth, and should support their efforts to prepare their human resources for the achievement of these programs.*

*The new strategy should be based on the principle of interdependence of countries and a mutually beneficial relationship between North and South on the basis of a shared responsibility of the international community as a whole to extend to developing countries the maximum appropriate cooperation and assistance, so as to assist them in their self-reliant efforts for development.*

*With this principle as the cornerstone, the new strategy will become an effective tool to promote social and economic development in developing countries. As an operational or action-oriented document, it should provide objectives, priorities and action guidelines to the organs, bodies and agencies of the United Nations system, and contain quantitative targets and commitments of the international community, as well as concrete time-frames for the implementation of overall and sectoral policy actions.*

*The strategy should become an instrument for the reactivation of growth and sustained development of the developing countries. It is within this context that the proposal to convene a special session of the General Assembly devoted to this theme derives its relevance and urgency. Now that we have a consensus on the structure or outline of the new IDS, it should no longer be difficult to determine the elements which could constitute the focus for the Special Session of the General Assembly in April next year.*

*I believe, Mr. Chairman, that the cause for global development, particularly that of developing countries, can greatly be advanced if the Special Session of the General Assembly next year could produce a declaration embodying the political sentiments that could permeate into the framework for specific actions of the new development strategy.*

*Thank you, Mr. Chairman.*



JHO with Rep. Anni and Speaker Pro-Tempore Antonio Cuenco on the conduct of the Muslim Mindanao elections.

# "Peace, a task all must take part"

The decade of the 80's unfolded major tragedies and human sufferings. It was a period of mourning in Asia.

In the Philippines, 3,000 passengers of the Dona Paz died in the worst maritime tragedy in the world, even surpassing in passenger casualty the sinking of a luxury liner the unsinkable "Titanic."

In China, a flood claimed the lives of 3,000 Chinese in the summer of 1989 that prompted its leaders to ask for international aid.

1988, described as the "Year of the Dragon," killed 7,000 of China's population. The catastrophe included the worst drought which scorched 10 per cent of China's farmlands.

Four major floods struck Bangladesh that snuffed the lives of 2,000, destroyed properties and paralyzed trade and industry.

In Bophal, India, 1,750 Indians were tortured and later died when poisonous gas leaked from a pesticide plant. The death toll reached 3,958 victims with another 50,000 persons crippled for life.

The century's worst ecological tragedy happened in East Kalimantan, Indonesia where a bush fire raged for several months finally burned itself out by destroying 3.6 million hectares of tropical rain forest.

In February, 1986 the Philippines was given a new lease of life when the dictator, Ferdinand Marcos, was ousted through a military backed people's power and Cory Aquino was installed the new President, creating a revolutionary government.

In 1989, Congress was rocked by the gun smuggling attempt of Rep. Nicanor de Guzman (Nueva Ecija); the death of former President Ferdinand Marcos; the bloody coup attempt by the RAM forces led by the fugitive Col. Gringo Honasan that claimed the lives of hundreds of people, injured almost a thousand of civilians and paralyzed the economic recovery of the country; the ever increasing foreign debt problem of 30 billion dollars.

In the field of sports, the 80's displayed the best and worst in the Filipino athletes. The Philipppines reigned supreme for 2 decades in Asian basketball, it was a big flop. Lately, we were humbled by Malaysia in the Southeast Asian Games.

After an unexpected rise of Philippine Chess Team which included Grandmaster Eugene Torre in the top ten in the recent Chess Olympiad, the Filipinos bowed to China in the just concluded Asian Chess Championship.

However, not everything was gloomy. We also had our share of bright moments. Paeng Nepomuceno is still the male bowler to beat in the world. Arianne Cerdena, in the women's class, won the lone gold in bowling during the 1988 Seoul Olympic while Leopoldo Serrantes copped the bronze medal in boxing.

Luisito Espinosa knocked out Thailand Khaokor Galaxy and won the World Boxing Association Bantamweight Division diadem. A record in Philippine history.

President Cory Aquino declared the 1990's as a "Decade of Peace." An excerpt of her speech:

"Our quest for peace is for all. And not just for a privileged few. We must work for just laws, we must design economic systems, build just relationships. Peace as a gift we implore from God; peace as the task that is ours to do. All must take part, all must share burdens and sacrifice and labor."

The Book of Philippians encourages us to leave that was in the past and move forward to finish the race.

The 80's could be best described as a generously dark decade. Can we see the light in the 1990's?

As the new year continues to grind, there are brewing news reports on the forthcoming coup d' etat, rice shortage, drought, starvation, brownouts . . . What really is in store for us in the future?

The country might be facing serious problems but there is hope, if the attitude of our hearts is faith and trust in God who is the source of real peace and security.

Consistent prayers for our leaders and our people are the order of the day. The Bible urges this. Discipline of the citizenry, so wanting in the last decade, can only come about with the changing of heart attitude.

God is true to His promise and will fulfill it. His timely approbation assured us "vengeance is mine and I will restore my people."

Do we have a reason to fear?

Absolutely, none. Our God is great. His loving kindness and mercy lasts forever. For those who have placed in their trust in the accomplished work of Jesus in the cross, indeed exciting times are ahead! (Aldo P. Filomeno)

# Highly Capable and Productive Legislator



When Congress convened for its Second Regular Session last July 25, 1989 the Congressmen committed themselves to concentrate on 6 primary concerns for legislation – the most urgent among them being the alleviation of poverty, reform of the bureaucracy, rural development and government decentralization. The House passed a total of 276 bills on third and final reading. Thirteen of these bills have been passed into law.

Speaker Ramon V. Mitra reported:

"The Honorable ISIDRO C. ZARRAGA, one of the most hard-working Congressmen was very much a part of this achievement. As a legislator, he was highly capable and productive in formulating and proposing bills designed to promote public welfare."

"When we convened for our Third Regular Session, you can look forward to our efforts to establish the relationship between the budget and good government through our on-going performance review to determine the efficiency with which Government is using its financial resources."

PERSONAL SIDELIGHTS

Congressman Isidro Clarin Zarraga is Chairman, House Committee on Justice; Chairman, Sub-Committee on Large-Scale Power Committee on Energy; Member, Committee on Banks and Currencies; Corporations and Franchises; Energy; Alternate Member of the Judicial & Bar Council representing Congress.

A PDP-Laban and subsequently, LDP by political affiliation, he represents the 3rd District of Bohol. A humble, low-keyed public official, he was 6th placer in the Bar Exams of 1951 (results released on 1952) the only UP candidate who landed in the top 10 of successful barristers that year.

Professional Experiences: Associate Attorney; Associate Lawyer, Jose P. Bengzon Law Firm (1952-1962); Corporate Secretary, Manila Gas Corporation, (1952-1984);

Partner, Bengzon, Zarraga, Narciso, Cudala, Pecson and Bengzon Law Firm; Corporate Officer (various firms), Philippine Electric Plant Owners Association; Member, Manila Overseas Press Club; Legal Officer, Admiral Finance Creditors Consortium Inc. (1984-present); Member, International Law Association (Phil. Chapter); Member, UP Alumni Association.

A Roman Catholic, Rep. Zarraga was born in Loay, Bohol. He is happily married to the former Irene Eleazar. The couple are blessed with 5 children, Irwin Paul, Imelda Margarita (Lia), Isidro Angelo (Dan), Ida Cristina & Ignatius Gerardo (Randy).

Rep. Zarraga filed a total of 57 bills, 53 of which are of local application while 4 are of national application. Among his major local bills are those that seek the establishment and construction of non-formal education learning centers in all Barangay Poblacions in all the 19 municipalities in the Third District (House Bills 20220, 20306, 20307, 20108, 20309, 20310, 20374, 20377, 20376, 20375, 20378, 20505, 20506, 20507, 20508, 20509, 20510, and 20511).

These bills aim to encourage non-formal, informal and indigenous learning systems and independent out-of-school program that respond to community needs. This is also meant to encourage the less privileged to learn various skills of handicraft, woodcraft and others of said kind.

*HBs 22704, 22705 and 22706, were filed to establish sub-district corn, coffee, cacao, and banana nursery and experimental stations in the municipalities of Jagna, Loay and Carmen, Bohol and which will serve all other municipalities in the district. Purpose: to provide new technology for the improvement of crop production as well as to collect or develop several varieties of these crops particularly those suitable in certain places.*

*Rep. Zarraga filed HBs 23151, 23152, 23153, 23347, 23346, 23244, 23246, 23247, 23248, 23229, 23230, 23231, 23297, 23298, 23299, 23300, and 23302 for the construction of fire stations with sufficient and modern fire fighting equipment in all the municipalities of the District. At present, the aforementioned municipalities are dependent on the Tagbilaran Fire Station.*

*The following are the national bills that he proposed:*

*HB 18977 - AMENDS FURTHER SECTION 4 OF PD No. 968 OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE PROBATION LAW OF 1976, AS AMENDED BY PD No. 1990.*

*HB 24384 - PENALIZES THE DESTRUCTION, TAKING, OR POSSESSION OR TRASPORTING OF ELECTRIC POWER TRANSMISSION LINE/MATERIALS, aimed at stopping the destruction and sabotage of inplace and energized power transmission lines coupled with the pilferage of high voltage aluminum conductor wires/cables and related materials.*

*HB 22747 - PROVIDES PENALTIES FOR THEFT OF ELECTRICITY, ELECTRIC METERS, WIRES, OR CONDUITS AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE ACT 3815 OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE REVISED PENAL CODE OF THE PHILIPPINES. Purpose: to stop the rampant theft of electric meters, wires or conduits which can be considered as a form of economic sabotage.*

*HB 20504 - AMENDS SECTION 8 OF REPUBLIC ACT 6424 (DANGEROUS DRUG ACT 1972) RE: POSSESSION OR USE OF PROHIBITED DRUGS.*

*The national bills that he proposed reflect his effective function as Chairman of both the Committee on Justice and the Subcommittee on Large Scale Power and Franchise Distribution System of the Committee on Energy. Under his leadership, the Committee on Justice deliberated on a total of 97 bills that were referred to it. Rep. Zarraga is also a member of several other Committees, namely: Banks and Currency, Corporations and Franchise and Energy.*




Rep. Zarraga (2nd from left) in House deliberation to uplift the quality of life of the people.

*He was privileged to sponsor the following bills on the floor during the Second Regular Session:*

*Committee Report 116 (on HB 7122) - AN ACT TO REPEAL SECTION 4 OF EXECUTIVE ORDER 1 TO REMOVE THE IMMUNITY OF THE PHILIPPINE COMMISSION OF GOOD GOVERNMENT (PCGG) OR ITS MEMBERS OR STAFF FROM CIVIL SUITS AND FROM GIVING TESTIMONY OR PRODUCING EVIDENCE BEFORE COURTS AND OTHER QUASI-JUDICIAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE BODIES;*

*Committee Report 163 (on HB 2692) - GRANTS FILIPINO CITIZENSHIP TO JOSHUA AND JULIA THOMPSON;*

*Committee Report 466 (on HB 13646) - PROVIDES FOR THE STRUCTURAL AND FUNCTIONAL ORGANIZATION OF THE OFFICE OF THE OMBUDSMAN;*

*JUSTICE COMMITTEE REPORT 132 - CREATION AND/OR TRANSFER OF RTC SALAS;*

*Committee Report 260 (on HB 14141) - ALLOWS ADMINISTRATIVE RECONSTITUTION OF ORIGINAL COPIES OF CERTIFICATES OF TITLES LOST OR DESTROYED DUE TO FIRE, FLOOD, AND OTHER FORCE MAJEURE AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE SECTION ONE HUNDRED TEN OF PRESIDENTIAL DECREE FIFTEEN TWENTY NINE AND SECTION FIVE OF REPUBLIC ACT TWENTY SIX.*

*Committee Report 73 (on House Res. 168) - DECLARING THE CONCURRENCE OF THE CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES WITH PRES. CORAZON C. AQUINO, IN ISSUING PROCLAMATION 138.*

As Chairman of the Committee on Justice, Rep. Zarraga presided over the Committee hearings on the impeachment complaint filed against the Chief Justice and Associate Justices of the Supreme Court. He duly observed the constitutional provisions and those of the House Rules of Procedure on Impeachment Proceedings and prepared and submitted to the House the required report within the reglementary period provided for under the Constitution;

Sponsored the corresponding Res. 984 under Committee Report 371 which was overwhelmingly approved by the chamber. He applied the latest applicable decision in the United States on impeachment, namely, the case

(cont. on page 31)

Portrait . . . from p. 2

*These measures included: payment of money claims of public school teachers; request to Rotary Clubs in Quezon City to adopt a Health Center each; construction of Multi-purpose Hall for educational, socio-cultural activities;*

*release of the 10% salary increase of public secondary school teachers; reorganization of the Kabataang Barangay; increase in the number of policemen; for a study to be undertaken to give more teeth to the Anti-Jaywalking ordinance;*

*formulation of guidelines on the implementation of the Free Secondary Education;*

*support to the position taken by the Metro Manila Councilors League of the Philippines regarding the Metro Manila Commission; for the Senate to extend support to Senate Bill 758 authored by Sen. John Osmena providing fixed monthly salary for local sanggunian members;*

*for the assessment of the lighting requirements of streets in Quezon City; establishment of a Quezon City Hall Housing project; the granting of an omnibus authority to the Quezon City Mayor to implement the city's Socialized Low-Cost Housing Program;*

*urging the Justice Secretary for the release of P60 million to start the construction of the Hall of Justice; authorize the City Mayor to conduct Mini-Sweepstakes Draws thru the Philippine Charity Sweepstakes;*

*grant of incentives to investors who will establish business, industrial and manufacturing concerns; granting authority to the Mayor to negotiate with the National Home Mortgage Finance Corp. for the financing of the Quezon City Social Housing Program;*

*calling for a study to improve the traffic flow along Aurora Boulevard; purchase and modification of Standard Buses into No-Seat Buses to alleviate the transportation problem; to monitor the implementation of the Generics Law; Submission of certification from physicians that pupils are immunized against poliomytis, measles, tuberculosis, tetanus and whooping cough as a requirement for enrollment; the feasibility of setting up a Mini-Boys Town in Quezon City.*



Councilor Banal (left) with Quezon City Mayor Brigido Simon signing Memo of Agreement between Sub-City 17 and Rotary Club to coordinate projects of the Quezon City government.

*Some of the other meaningful ordinances he introduced: allocation of P36,093,106.16 for infrastructures; recreation and entertainment places to provide a safety vault as depository of deadly weapons carried by patrons and guests;*

*development of the Quezon Memorial Circle; establishment of a Socialized Housing Site for dislocated families affected by the construction of the circumferential road in Brgy. Escopa; conversion of Block 416 in Manresa into a Low-cost Socialized Housing Project;*

*updating of laws and ordinances on sanitation; creation of a Public Affairs and Information Bureau; defining and penalizing shoplifting; increasing the longevity pay of city officials and employees; establishing a Mobile Street School for street children; the establishment of a Police Sub-Station in Project 4, Quezon City; establishment of a program wherein high school vocational students will be tasked to manufacture school desks as a training in woodwork and to generate savings in furniture expenditures; appropriation of P9 million pesos for the purchase of 30 units of fully equipped mobile cars as assistance to the Quezon City Police Station, and resolutions designed to streamline and enhance the operation of both the executive and legislative departments of the city.*

## AN EXCLUSIVE INTERVIEW:

To seek his opinion on current events which dominated both the local and national scene, an interview was sought by the Editor, GLADIATORS Magazine, and fortunately was granted. The exclusive interview with the honorable city solon follows:

**GLADIATORS MAGAZINE:**

**What motivated the Quezon City Council to enact the ordinance regulating cigarette smoking?**

*COUNCILOR CONRADO BANAL:*

*The aim is to regulate smoking in the city because we feel the freedom of an individual to smoke stops when such practice harms other people. Smoking is strongly prohibited in places like air-conditioned enclosed areas, transportation utilities, public offices, elevators, etc. However, a smoking area is allowed in designated places.*

*The measure was introduced and presented before the Quezon City Council six months ago. During the first few months the implementation was quite rigid. To put more teeth in its implementation guidelines were imposed to reinforce knowledge on the restrictions.*

*As a guideline, the city government is requiring establishments to have at least 50% of their space as non-smoking areas. Without this requirement, proprietors may just designate a small, insignificant section of their firms as non-smoking areas, thus defeating the purpose of the ordinance.*

*I think we should now come out with more specific guidelines on smoking.*

**Q: Does smoking affect the health of the general public?**

*A: As we all know, the ordinance is not a novel one. In fact, Manila came out with smoking taboo during the incumbency of the late Mayor Villegas although this city edict is now dead. We have been receiving technical data from*

*medical science and institution that a major cause of lung cancer is smoking. Facts and statistics have been provided by the Lung Center of the Phils. and medical associations asserting that 70% of lung cancer victims were smokers.*

*With these alarming statistics and thru the leadership of Councilor Cielito "Mahal" del Mundo, we decided to enact the ordinance. Lately the government of Quezon City has been recipient of congratulatory messages from local and international leaders on our efforts to stop smoking. Major newspapers abroad cited us for this experience in blunting the effects of this pernicious habit.*

*Right now we can notice edifices that are now smoke-free like the St. Luke's Medical Center. Housewives are thankful for this disciplinary measure since they can now dine with their families in favorite eating places without being irritated with clouds of unwelcomed smokes.*

*I am encouraging our fellowmen to live a disciplined life and the law enforcers to fully implement the edict.*

**Q: Quezon City, at one time, ranked number 3 in the number of drug users in the country. What can you say?**

*A: Drug abuse undoubtedly is the greatest menace to our society. On November 12, 1989 our country launched the "Drug Prevention and Control Week". The aim was to emphasize the need for us to be fully aware of the social and health hazards of drugs. Fortunately, Quezon City Vice Mayor Vicente C. Sotto III has been doing an exceedingly good job in this battle against drug addiction. Since he assumed chairmanship of the Anti-Drugs Agency, there is a perceptible decline in drug-related incidents. Vice Mayor Sotto recently is a recipient of an international award of valor in Miami Florida in his vital role in the prevention and control of drug indulgence in Quezon City.*

*The Anti-Drugs Agency of the Vice-Mayor has been conducting seminars in schools, community, organizations and coordinating effectively with allied local and national aggrupations dealing with the problem; given no quarters and tackled persistently are not only the drug users but also drug lords. Of such gravity, the commission of drug-related crimes should be considered heinous crimes deserving a death penalty. The Quezon City officials would not want this place to be converted into another Columbia wherein the influence of illicit drugs has reached a proportion that destroyed the social, economic, health and moral fiber of the nation.*

**Q: Instability continues to prevail the atmosphere in many barangays in Quezon City because most of them are occupying government lands. What to do?**

*To make legislative work functional, City Mayor Brigido "Jun" Simon has divided Quezon City into 24 sub-cities and designated the 24 elected councilors as deputy mayors. This is an innovative concept. With this approach to social and economic problem, we expect faster delivery of basic services to the people, minimizing bureaucratic rigmarole and red tape.*

*Centerpiece of the program is a low-cost housing project embarked in District I, Manresa. To date 550 units have been erected. We have approximately 130,000 so-called squatter families in the city.*

*At Barangay Payatas, District II, lies wide and virgin lands. A low-cost housing is also introduced together with a mini-industrial estate. Livelihood is very necessary to support the residents. In Barangay Sapang Palay occupants do have an urgent problem - inadequate source of living. In Barangay Escopa, District III, the city government is doing some finishing touches to put up an affordable housing for as low P500 payment a month; the poor families will eventually own the house and lot they are occupying.*

*Payatas promises to be an ideal area where investors can build factories and provide employment. Within 2 years Payatas will be a much improved place. The housing projects are for those who are qualified, who resided in the barangay before the EDSA Revolution in 1986. Professional squatters are not included in the project.*

*Hopefully, houses will be expanded vertically up to 3 to 4 floors in the future to accomodate more families.*

**Q: Do we have a permissive society allowing violence, pornography, illicit and bold shows?**

*A: The existence of entertainment in bad taste that tends to corrupt the moral fiber of the society is a sensitive issue. The Quezon City Council enacted an ordinance penalizing spectators/ customers of bold, nude shows and patronizers of pornography.*

*However, this ordinance is being questioned by human-rights lawyers because police jailed violators. Police Station Commander Col. Rodolfo Garcia has been instructed by Mayor Simon to conduct regular inspection on night-clubs reported to be showing bold, nude shows.*

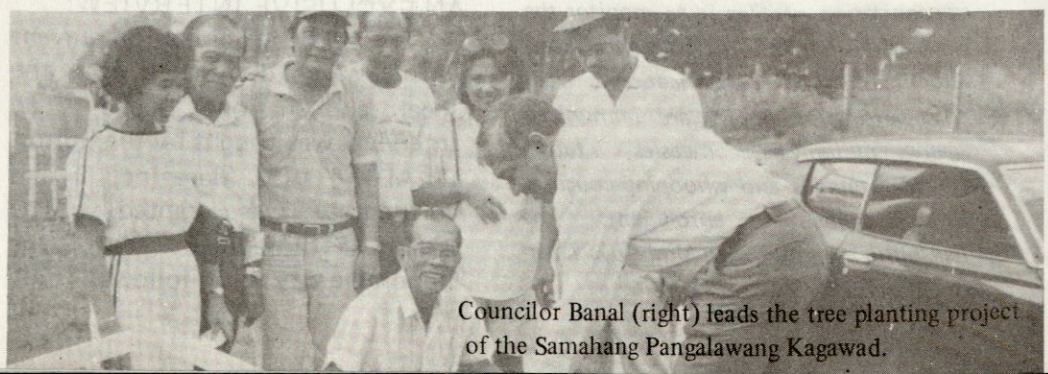
*We totally discourage the exhibition of these immoral shows. In fact, motels are not allowed to operate within our vicinity.*

*With regards to violent, pornographic and obscene tv and film shows, Manoling Morato of the Board of Censors, is tackling the problem. As citizens of Quezon City, we can make representation with that body to help cleanse the airlines of vulgar, indecent shows.*

*Establishments operating bold shows were penalized and some were closed. The city government encourages socio-civic groups and individuals to report violators.*

*In my honest opinion, there is a need to overhaul our values. We have to strike at the root cause. Law enforcers receive meager pay and in the enforcement of our laws, many are tempted to look the other way. Good values like honesty, respect to elders, dedication to service should be taught to children at their tender age in the homes and schools.*

*I am encouraging the private sectors to stand up and be counted so that we can achieve greater things for the benefit of everyone.*



Councilor Banal (right) leads the tree planting project of the Samahang Pangalawang Kagawad.



The Cotabato solon in his regular visit to the tribal communities.

**Defender . . .** (cont. from page 4)

gion; and HB 11086 mandates police officers to "read the rights" of the person they have arrested in the language he understands.

## PERSONAL SIDELIGHTS

Born on March 2, 1947 in Midsayap, Cotabato, Congressman Andolana is married to the former Candie Verdon. They are blessed with 4 children: Guer Law, 13; Gutzer Law, 12; Glairthe, 7; Christ May, 6.

He attended his elementary at the Padada School; secondary and college (BSE, cum laude), St. Michael's College (Padada, Davao); earned his AB, Ateneo de Davao Univ. (Davao City); BSC, Holy Cross of Davao College; and, LLB, Univ. of Mindanao.



Rep. Andolana (left) with Speaker Mitra (standing) and fellow congressmen during a committee hearing.

Active in extra-curricular activities, he served student organizations either as President, Prefect, Editor or Governor.

To advance the cause of the poor and the disadvantaged, he participated in gatherings as the country's delegate conducted by: Asean Peasant Development Assembly, Cha-am, Thailand, 1983; Asean Development Workers Convention, Dhaka, Bangladesh, 1984; Regional Peasant Development Facilitators Program, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia and Jakarta, 1985.

Andolana is Chairman of the Nationalist Alliance for Peasants Concern and National Vice President, Partido ng Bayan.

As Human Rights Lawyer, he successfully prosecuted the Father Favali Murder Case where 11 notorious fanatics and members of the CHDF were convicted for the murder of Italian Priest Fr. Tullio Favali, PIME, and frustrated murder for the near killing of church lay leader – Rufino Robles; the Fr. Orlando, et al Case; People vs. Volker Smith and Gilda Narciso.

**To Serve God . . .** (cont. from page 6)

# State of Health of the Nation

by Rep. NARCISO D. MONFORT
4th District, Iloilo

It has always been the ultimate goal of government to provide quality health to its people to attain the best in socio-economic advancement for the country.

However, while the Philippines is endowed with rich, natural resources, yet she lacks appropriate technology and financial requirements to optimize her vast potentials. Budget constraints in the health delivery, coupled with the burgeoning demands of an exploding society, are bottlenecks in pursuing effectively the nation's health scenario.

THE CHALLENGE. The opportunities offered and constraints inherently imposed by present circumstances have developed in us Filipinos resourcefulness and initiative to utilize limited resources in the pursuit of a mandated role as guardians of the people's health.

PROGRAM ACTIVITIES. Since multitudes of our people reside in the countryside, we have, of necessity, to bring our services to their doorsteps. These are being done with the strengthening of rural health service groups, including a system providing incentives to social agents of change.

We have identified major communicable health problems of our country. The primary health care, as an impact agenda, was launched concentrating on personal, family responsibility in promoting and maintaining good health.

Timetable, on the control of malaria, schistosomiasis, gastroenteritis and sexually transmitted diseases, has been vigorously pursued.

Through print and broadcast media, people awareness has been created on the potentials of local fruits and vegetables as excellent sources of Vitamin A. Some 20,000 children are blinded due to such mineral deficiency.

Aside from communicable diseases, the effects of malnutrition, poor sanitation, drug-abuse-dependency related cases, are among the most critical harbingers on the resurgence of ill-health.

This year I have authored a bill in Congress strictly requiring doctor's prescription on the sale of cough syrups. The Dangerous Drugs Board attests conclusively that cough syrups, in combination with alcohol, cause 70 per cent of the commission of crimes attributed to drugs.

In terms of manpower development for the medical profession, it is my belief that to qualify for employers' requirements abroad, our education's curriculum should be revised and tailored to meet quality standards prescribed by




Rep. Monfort (3rd from left) as guest of honor and inducting officer of the 66th Foundation Anniversary of the Philippine Nurses Association.




The Iloilo solon (2nd from right) as guest speaker of the Press and Radio Club, Inc.

hospitals in foreign countries.

**Accomplishments.** These concerns to uplift the quality of life of our people are incorporated in the bills and resolutions I have sponsored and filed in Congress from August 4, 1987 up to October 26, 1989. For this purpose I have chosen bills of national significance on alcoholism and smoking; disease control; healthful motherhood; health facilities; research; licensing and regulations; food and drug; retirement incentives; salary standardization and career development.

These bills are categorized properly and distributed as follows: Public Health Services - 26 bills authored; Hospitals and Facilities Services - 23; Standards and Regulations - 27; and Management Services - 26. Among these measures, HB 10900 now known as "The Generic Drugs Act of 1988" was signed into law by the President of the Philippines on September 13, 1988. This law enables people to buy quality medicine at low prices.

What matters more now are the tasks awaiting ahead. The Committee on Health has lined up bills to be filed in Congress before the end of December, 1989. However, the formulation of plans and program of work will largely hinge on the outcome of a crucial meeting to be held by the Health committee this month.

Editor's Note:

As we went to press, Congressman Monfort succeeded in having two (2) bills — banning fake and inefficacious drugs, as well as granting BFAD quasi-judicial powers - approved on second reading.

While appropriate measures are being readied to feed the legislative mills this month and 1990, establishment of 10 bed municipal hospitals, completion and expansion of existing hospital and health facilities will be spiritedly implemented without let-up.

Grants from foreign sources will be solicited to augment the budgetary requirements of health projects.

With this brief presentation of facts, figures and events, I hope this will provide the reader with an objective insight in the state of our health program.

May I, therefore, enjoin everyone involved — the change-agents as well as target beneficiaries — to nurture the seed of development that we have sown.

Eagle's . . . (from page 32) **THE 1987 CONSTITUTION**

The 1987 Constitution provides that after 1991 foreign military bases, troops and facilities should no longer be allowed in this country, except under certain conditions. Their retention should be under a treaty; the treaty is concurred in by the Senate; a referendum is held on the treaty if and when Congress so requires; and that the treaty be recognized by the other contracting party (Specific Provision, Sec. 25 of the Transitory Provision).

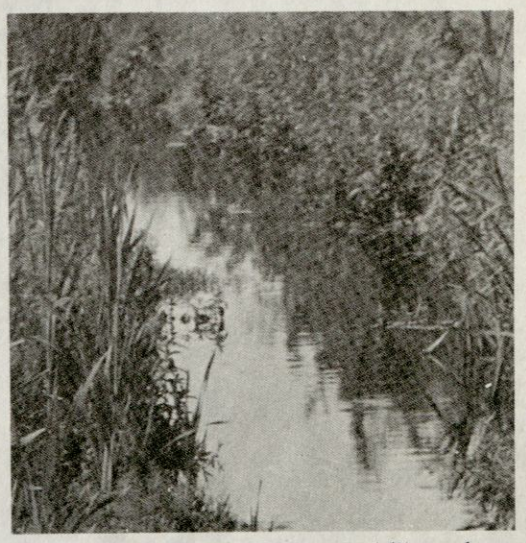
In other words, a referendum can only be conducted after a treaty has been concluded between our government and that of the United States.

**BIBLICAL PRINCIPLE**

Our fate as a nation is not in the hands of the US whom we have regarded as an idol.

God will stand side by side with us and bless us if we faithfully obey HIM.

Mighty countries might have been threats to our security, but if GOD is with us whom shall we fear?



Let us thirst for the Living God like a deer longs for a stream of cool water.

**Logging . . .** (cont. from page 7)

Bulacan Unified Organization affiliated with the Lakas ng Bayan in 1986.

Exemplary services are always rewarded to persons who deserve the honors. Among the awards which he received. "Gold Wings (McMicking Award)" for the highest proficiency in flying (Class 51-B); "Outstanding Administrator Award" by the Phil. Government Association "Phil. Airman Award," by Aircraft Owners Pilots Association; "Manila Press Club Award," for outstanding public service; "Outstanding Bulakeno Award," by the Bulacan Provincial Government; "IAOPA Award," by the International Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association for outstanding services rendered to general aviation; "Golden Aviator Award," on May 13, 1989, 100th TW, FAB.



Rep. Rivera (right) with Speaker Pro Tempore Antonio Cuenco. Trade Secretary Concepcion during the 1990 budget deliberations.

Mr. Rivera was keynote speaker of the different civic clubs, military commands and associations, commission on appointments and of the Phil. Electronics and Telecommunications Federation convention held recently, etc. A Paul Harris fellow, he is the first PAF Flying School Graduate to be elected to the House of Representatives.



The Bulacan solon (3rd from left) with fellow legislators during the visit to Congress of Russian Woman Cosmonaut.

**SPONSORSHIP SPEECH OF REP. DANTE O. TINGA RE COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 164 ON H. B. 10117 (AN ACT PROVIDING FOR THE ESCHEAT OF UNCLAIMED SHARES . . .)**

*Mr. Speaker:*

*The demands of national growth and development have made the officials of this country in the executive and legislative branches scurrying into a frenzied search for ways and means to finance the colossal endeavor. Thus, new taxes are proposed side by side with improved tax collection programs. Anti-graft laws are fine-tuned to check a pervasive malaise which plagues the Filipino psche and, in the process, curb what to many appears to be the cause of the biggest drain of the public treasury - graft and corruption. Alternative and complementary plans are advocated to solve or at least ease up the foreign debt problem so that much-needed funds can be channelled from debt service to the undertaking to secure economic recovery and poverty alleviation. More foreign grants and loans are sought. Even the labor market abroad is pursued relentlessly even to the extent of sacrificing our dignity as a people. In short, we have virtually gone through the entire spectrum of alternatives in the expedition to secure the wherewithal needed for the deliverance of our people from want and ruin.*

*Yet we have overlooked a veritable goldmine, a wellspring of funds which is right in our midst. The fountain source I advert to is so obvious and accessible that an apt expression in the vernacular is brought to mind: "Kung ahas ang hinahanap mo, siguro tinuka ka na." In those words, you are rebuked in jest once too often when you fail to find something which is staring you right in the face.*

*I am referring to the unclaimed shares in corporations, the dividends pertaining thereto and the accrued interests thereon. As their lawful owners have not come out, these unclaimed treasure troves either lay idle with the corporations concerned or; even if used by them, have had no significant impact on the economy.*

*Although there is no reliable estimate of the amount of the unclaimed shares for obvious reasons, it is no empty speculation to aver that the unclaimed shares in three big conglomerates alone could total nearly one billion pesos.*

*The bill at hand which provides for the escheat of the unclaimed shares in favor of the government is both propitious and welcome. This is the only revenue-raising measure we have come out with which does not involve taxation.*

*In reporting out a substitute bill, your committee saw to it that the demands of procedural due process are addressed so that persons who could be adversely affected by the escheat proceedings will have their day in court to safeguard their interests. The provisions incorporated in the substitute bill towards this end are as follows:*

*1) The requirement that the last known addresses of the missing stockholders be included in the report required of corporations with unclaimed shares (Sec. 2)*

*2) The requirement that the prescribed sworn reports be posted in conspicuous places in the offices of the corporation concerned,*

*3) The requirement that the corporations concerned should before filing the prescribed sworn reports communicate in writing with the missing stockholders at their last known addresses (Sec. 2);*

*4) The requirement that the summons together with a copy of the escheat petition and the order of hearing be published in a newspaper of general circulation (Secs. 4 & 5);*

*5) The recognition of the "quasi in rem" character of the escheat proceedings (Sec. 5);*

*6) The confirmation of the right of any person interested in the petition to become a party thereto and appear therein (Sec. 5).*

*To repeat, H. B. 10117 which is the substitute bill submitted by the committee on corporations and franchises presents the most trouble-free and sure-fire mechanism for raising revenue for the government. I respectfully urge this house, therefore, to match the painlessness of the measure with exuberance in support thereof.*

*Thank you.*



Rep. Tinga delivers a Privilege Speech on economic significance.



Rep. Valencia expresses his grave concern over the transportation problem in Metro Manila and offers solutions.

jointly with the Department of Health. The Program provided free medicines to 400 tubercular patients placed on a 6-month chemotherapy. The educational components of the program, benefitting 30,000 Mindorenos, highlighted the importance treatment and attacked the stigma of the disease - one of the reasons why many TB victims hesitate to seek medical treatment.

## KONGRESO NG MAMAMAYAN NG SILANGANG MINDORO

With RGV's dedication to bring about the socio-economic development in Mindoro, he is determined to get first-hand information from the people particularly the local officials, representatives of national offices in the district, leaders of different groups, his constituents, among others. Thus, he institutionalized the Kongreso ng Mamamayan ng Silangang Mindoro as the "official sounding board". The sessions are held almost once a month constantly being rotated among the eight municipalities in the District.

## PAHATID-ULAT

As Representative, RGV firmly believes that he is accountable to his constituents for all his acts and deeds. And in support of President Aquino's policy of transparency, RGV imposed upon himself the obligation of regularly communicating with his constituents. Thus, aside from the regular circulars, RGV established his official paper, the "Pahatid-Ulat" with 10,000 circulation.

Through this publication, RGV has maintained regular communication to his constituents particularly those in the remotest barangays. He accounts in details his legislative work in Congress including budgetary releases from the national government intended for all municipalities. The paper likewise reports on RGV's accomplishments and projects initiated.

## DEVELOPMENT OF MINDORO

RGV has managed to come-up with a 10-Year Development Program (1988-1998) for the whole island Provinces of Mindoro which he calls as his "Vision for Mindoro". This Program has focused on the conservation and preservation of natural resources, energy and power, agro-industrial, transportation and communications, roads and infrastructure, settlements and livelihood. education, youth and sports, and tourism.

Notwithstanding all his accomplishments and worthy endeavors, RGV never ceases to remember his humble beginnings. He may have earned series of success in Metro Manila but his gentle and warm affection has remained in the hearts of his constituents in Mindoro.



RGV (3rd from right) during heated debates on the 1990 budget deliberations.

**Highly . . .** (cont. from page 21)

against U. S. Federal Judge Harry P. Claiborne of Nevada.

In service to his constituents he interceded for the release of a total of P44,192,908.00 to finance 292 DPWH and NALGU Projects. Undertaken are the construction, improvement and repair of different projects. such as:

school buildings in the 19 municipalities and 434 barangays;

asphalting and concreting of national, municipal and barangay roads;
market buildings, health centers, reservoirs, waterworks, dam and flood control (water impounding) in different areas in his district.

Major projects which are approved but pending implementation are:

asphalting of Junction Tagbilaran East Road - La Union - Mabini Road;

asphalting of Junction Tagbilaran East Road - Guindulman-Anda Road;



VETERANS' BENEFITS. Fellow legislators beam happily after they approved a House bill providing benefits to Filipino War Veterans. At extreme right is Cong. Zarraga who batted strongly for its passage.

asphalting of Candijay - Cogtong Road; and

asphalting of Junction Loay Interior Road-Sevilla Road.

He also helped in the follow-up for the early implementation of the following projects:

asphalting / concreting of Bohol Circumferential Road under the 16th Yen Credit Package of O.E.C.F.

feasibility study of Carmen-Sierra Bullones-Alicia Road.

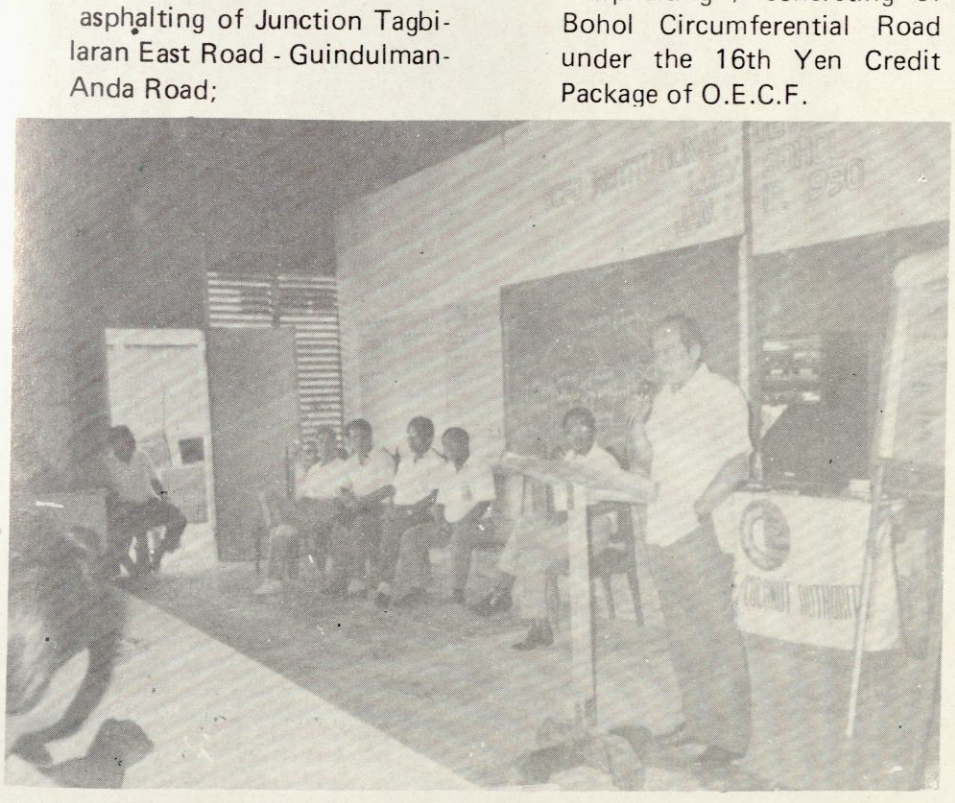
Assisted by a hard-working and efficient office staff, he patiently answered some 1,382 communications of varied nature, ranging from simple inquiries to big cases seeking assistance for justice.

Rep. Zarraga made representations with the Dept. of Agriculture in connection with a request for patrol boats to be used for Project Bantay Dagat, a campaign against illegal fishing in his district. It was through his efforts that the Philippine Charity Sweepstakes Office donated two ambulances to this district.

Monthly meetings and consultations are conducted on problems relating to agriculture, fishery and community development. His regular fora with his constituents were undertaken in order for him to have basic information on the varying needs of all towns and barangays of the district.

Being a trustworthy representative, Congressman Zarraga has expressed willingness to respond to urgent needs and concerns of his constituents. You may reach him through his district office at:

Aquarius Press Building
Tagbilaran City Bohol



AT LOAY, BOHOL. Rep. Zarraga delivers an inspirational message during closing ceremonies of a Training Seminar for Coconut Planters.

# DO WE REALLY NEED THE US MILITARY BASES?

Boy Blue P. Filomeno




Are the US military bases in our country necessary?

The US Naval Base is at Subic Bay, Zambales while the Clark Airfield, in Angeles, Pampanga. Both bases occupy a land area of 53,000 hectares. They are the largest outside USA equipped with modern artillery.

In the meantime, what has Uncle Sam done to the Filipinos? Despite the heroics of the Filipino soldiers in the last World War II which cost thousands who died in battle and properties destroyed, the US government has practically abandoned us.

Instead, through Gen. Douglas Macarthur, the US rebuilt Japan from the ashes of war to become a dominating figure as an industrial empire.

Meantime, the dwindling Filipino World War II veterans have not received benefits due them from the US. Of the few veterans, who are still alive, are sick and aging fast.

Payments which come deceptively as "aids" reach us in delayed trickles in the form of ancient helicopters which killed elite officers of the Armed Forces in periodic air accidents.

Senate Majority Floor Leader Teofisto Guingona has remarked that the US continues to dictate how the aid from the American military bases should be apportioned by the Philippine government to our disadvantage.

He explained: "Substantial amounts paid by the American government were plowed back to the US to defray the operating expenses of its agencies, particularly the US-AID Mission.

"The US government committed itself to give $218 million to the Philippine government but $17 million will go back to Uncle Sam. Out of the $17 million, $3 million will be used to pay the fees of foreign consultants."

The senator said that the US government, through the US-AID, imposes stringent and unreasonable conditions in the design, planning and implementation of infrastructure projects financed by its military bases compensation. The US has established multi-national companies in our land but pays cheap labor.



## SECURITY IN THE ASEAN REGION

The US bases in our country are strategically located that protect the security of American interests in the Asean region. Last August, our country was host in the Asean Inter-Parliamentary Organization Conference. In a posture of neutrality, the organization approved a resolution for the early dismantling of foreign military bases and the removal of nuclear weapons in Southeast Asia.

## FEAR OF RUSSIAN INVASION

The removal of the US bases is feared by many as the chance of the Union Socialist Russian Republic to invade our country. The prospect of economic collapse is another reason for those who advocate the retention of the bases.

Yet despite their presence in our soil for decades, our country ranks the poorest among the Third World Countries.

(cont. on page 27)